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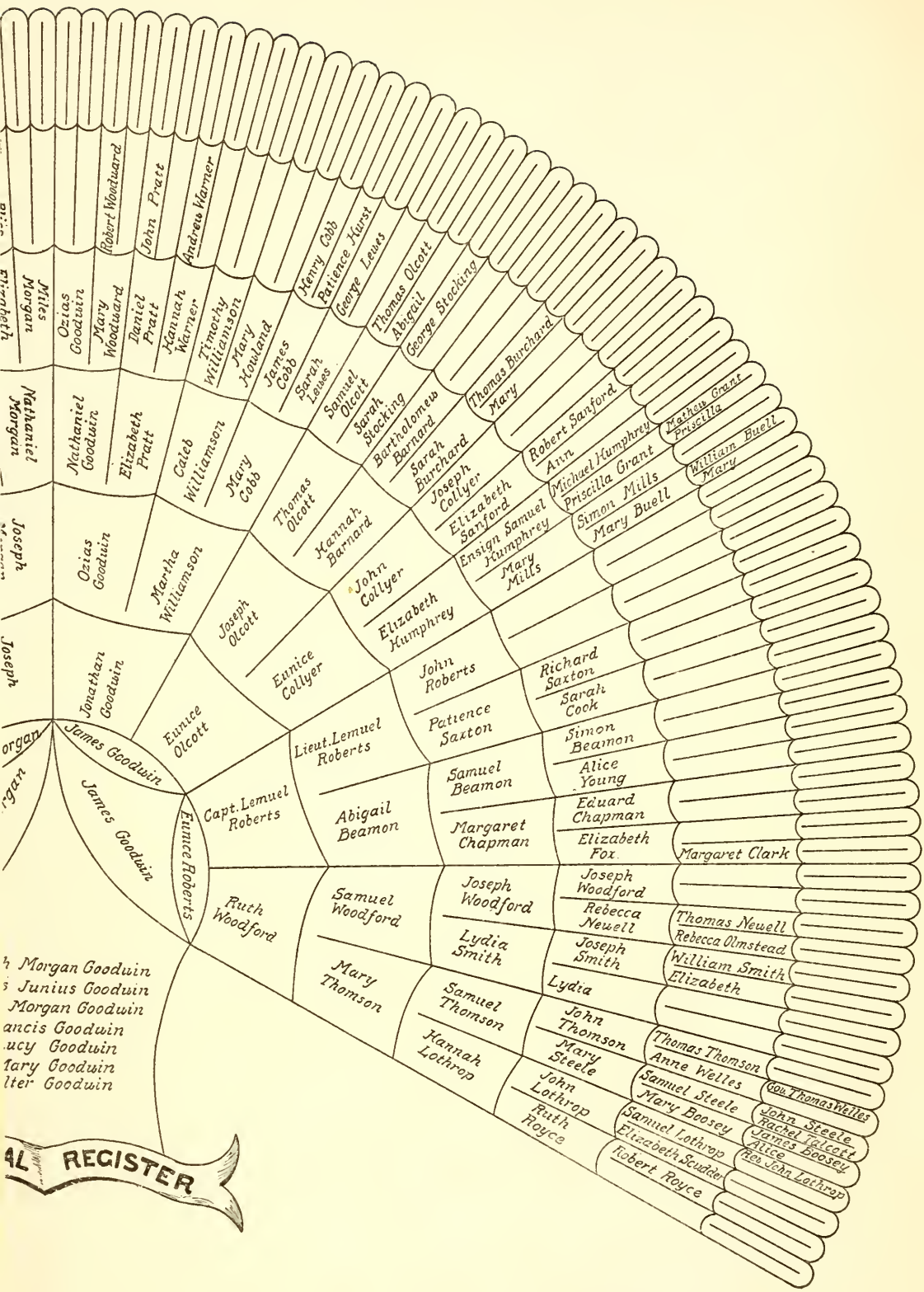
Starr, Frank Farnsworth
Various ancestral lines of
James Goodwin and Lucy (Morgan)
Goodwin of Hartford, Connecticut


Miles Morgan
Ozias Goodwin
Mary Woodward
Robert Woodward
Daniel Pratt
Hannah Warner
John Pratt
Andrew Warner
Timothy Williamson
Mary Houland
James Cobb
Sarah Lewes
Henry Cobb
Patience Hurst
George Lewes
Thomas Olcott
Abigail
George Stocking
Nathaniel Morgan
Nathaniel Goodwin
Elizabeth Pratt
Caleb Williamson
Mary Cobb
Samuel Olcott
Sarah Stocking
Bartholomew Barnard
Sarah Burchard
Joseph Collyer
Thomas Burchard
Mary
Robert Sanford
Ann
Michael Humphrey
Priscilla Grant
Simon Mills
Mary Buell
Mathew Grant
Priscilla
William Buell
Mary
Joseph
Ozias Goodwin
Martha Williamson
Thomas Olcott
Hannah Barnard
John Collyer
Elizabeth Humphrey
Ensign Samuel Humphrey
Mary Mills
Joseph
Jonathan Goodwin
Eunice Olcott
Joseph Olcott
Eunice Collyer
John Roberts
Patience Saxton
Richard Saxton
Sarah Cook
Simon Beamon
Alice Young
Eduard Chapman
Elizabeth Fox
Margaret Clark
James Goodwin
James Goodwin
Eunice Roberts
Capt. Lemuel Roberts
Lieut. Lemuel Roberts
Abigail Beamon
Samuel Beamon
Margaret Chapman
Joseph Woodford
Rebecca Newell
Thomas Newell
Rebecca Olmstead
Ruth Woodford
Samuel Woodford
Lydia Smith
Joseph Smith
William Smith
Elizabeth
Mary Thomson
Samuel Thomson
Hannah Lothrop
Lydia
John Thomson
Mary Steele
John Lothrop
Ruth Royce
Thomas Thomson
Anne Welles
Samuel Steele
Mary Boosey
Samuel Lothrop
Elizabeth Scudder
Robert Royce
Gov. Thomas Welles
John Steele
Rachel Talcott
James Boosey
Alice
Rev. John Lothrop
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AL REGISTER

Margaret
Thomas Bird
James Bird
Rebecca
Joseph Stebbins
Sarah Dorchester
James Blakeman
Miriam Wheeler
Hugh Smith
Mary
Edward Allen
Sarah
Japhet Chapin
Abilene Coley
Isaac Sheldon
Mary Woodford
Obadiah Spencer
Mary Disborough
John Beckley
Hannah Deming
Rev. Joseph Taylor
Mary (Bryan) Maltby
Isaac Halsey
Abigail Howell
Maj. Samuel Eells
Ann Lenthall
Rev. John Whiting
Sybil Collins
Daniel White
Susannah Mould
Thomas Cook
Sarah Mason
Rev. Adam Blakeman
Jane
Moses Wheeler
Anthony Dorchester
Sarah
Hannah Wright
Thomas Stebbins
Rowland Stebbins
Sarah Whiting
Benjamin Stebbins
Hannah Bird
Martha (Blakeman) Ball
Edward Smith
Sarah Allen
Samuel Chapin
Hannah Sheldon
Samuel Spencer
Deborah Beckley
Joseph Taylor
Mehetable Halsey
Col Samuel Eells
Martha (Whiting) Bryan
Daniel White
Alice Cook
David Smith
Experience Chapin
John Spencer
Elizabeth Taylor
Nathaniel Eells
Alice White
Mary Stebbins
Experience Smith
Samuel Spencer
Martha Eells
Sally Spencer
James Prudden
Samuel Chapin
Cicely
Samuel Coley
Anne Prudden
Robert Blott
Thomas Woodford
Mary Blott
Thomas Spencer
Nicholas Disborough
Mary Brunson
Richard Beckley
Richard Treat
Alice Gaylord
John Deming
Honour Treat
John Taylor
Katharine
Alexander Bryan
Ann Baldwin
William Pantry
Richard Bryan
Margaret
Mary Pantry
Thomas Halsey
Thomas Halsey
Mary
Edward Howell
Frances
Maj. John Howell
John Eells
Rev. Robert Lenthall
William Whiting
Dea. Edward Collins
Martha
Nathaniel White
John White
Mary Levit
Elizabeth
Hugh Mould
Martha Coit
John Coit
Mary Tenners
Thomas Cook
Nicholas Mason
ANCESTR

VARIOUS ANCESTRAL LINES

OF

JAMES GOODWIN

AND

LUCY (MORGAN) GOODWIN

OF

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

COMPILED BY

FRANK FARNSWORTH STARR

FOR

JAMES J. GOODWIN

VOLUME I

GOODWIN LINES

HARTFORD, CONN.

1915

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PREFACE

The sketches in these two volumes are based on the results of extended searches of numerous records, the authorities being cited for the conclusions stated in this work.

For the history of the Goodwin, Eells, Roberts, Spencer, Williamson and Cobb lines the reader is referred to the publications entitled, The Goodwins of Hartford, Conn., The Eells Family, The Roberts Family, The Thomas Spencer Family, The Williamson and Cobb Families.

The publication of the present two volumes brings to a close the work of tracing the Goodwin and Morgan ancestry on which the compiler has been engaged for a large part of his time for the past thirty years.

To all those, too numerous to mention, who have aided him in this great task he returns his sincere thanks.

Frank Farnsworth Starr.

Middletown, Conn., December, 1914.

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THE FAMILY OF

JOHN PRATT

Lucius R. Paige in his History of Cambridge, Massachusetts, page 10, says the date of the first order on the Cambridge Town Records is March 29, 1632, and that it relates to the paling of the common lands. This order, without date, is given on page 3 of the printed "Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge" and reads as follows:

"An Agreement by the Inhabitants of [ ] Towne aboute paleing in the necke of [ ]"

"Impr. that Euery one who hath anny part the[re]on shall hereafter kepe the same in good and suficient repaire and if it happen to have ann[y] defect he shall mend the same wthin three da[ys] after notice giuen or else pay x^{s} a rodd [for] euery rodd so repaired for him."

"ffurther it is Agreed that the sd Impaled gr[ound] shalbe Deuided according to euery mans p[ropor]tion in the sd pales"

"ffurther it is Agreed if anny man shall [ ] to sell his part of Impaled ground he sha[ll] ffirst tender the sale thereof to the Towne [ ] Interested who shall either giue him the [ ] he hath bin at or else to haue liberty to sell it [to] whome he Cann."

Following this order are the records of the meetings held December 24 and January 7, 1632.

Evidently in accordance with the agreement of March 29, the next entry on the records is "Comon Pales deuided as ffollo" —with a list of forty-two names and the number of rods each person was to keep in order.

Following this and under the date of "The 5th August 1633", is a record of "Lotts Granted for Cowyardes."[1] In the list of twenty-eight names to whom the cowyards were granted are only two, those of "William Peintre" and "John Prat" who do not appear in the list of "Comon Pales".

Whether they were inhabitants of the town when the division of the paling took place, or came between that time and August 5, 1633, is a matter of conjecture.

[1] Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge, 1630-1703, p. 5.

"The 7th Aprell 1634" there were

"Granted John Pratt two Ackrs by the ould burieing place wthout the Comon Pales—"[2]

A list of "Lotts Granted behind the Pyne S[wamp]" is given on the records under date of "The 5th of January 1634". The first name in the list is John Pratt who was given "5 Ackrs".[3]

Another name in this list was "mr Pratt" who received "4 Ackrs".[3]

One year later, or January 4, 1635-6,

"It is Ordered that John Hopkins shall haue the 4 Ackrs of ground by the pyne swampe wch mr Prat should have had".[4]

There is nothing whatever to indicate the given name of "mr Prat".

In a foot-note on page 35 of Paige's History of Cambridge, the statement is made that there were two John Pratts in the town. This is based on an error made by James Savage in his "Genealogical Dictionary of New England," volume 3, page 472, that both John Pratts removed to Hartford, one of them being a surgeon who afterwards sailed for Europe and was shipwrecked and drowned off the coast of Spain in December 1644.

An article by William S. Appleton on page 66 of volume 18 of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register shows that the surgeon was Abraham Pratt, of whom there is no evidence to indicate that he ever lived in Hartford.

In April 1634 the General Court of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay passed an order that the Constable in each town, with four of the inhabitants chosen for the purpose, should make a record of the lands of all the inhabitants.[5] . . . In accordance with this order it was voted at a town meeting held in 1634, that this committee should meet monthly, and "The Regestere Booke of the Lands and Houses in the Newtowne" begins the entries of land with "May the ffirst 1635".[6]

---

[2] Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge, 1630-1703, p. 7.
[3] Ibid., p. 11.
[4] Ibid., p. 15.
[5] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 1, p. 116.
[6] Proprietors' Records of the Town of Cambridge, 1635-1829, p. 2.

On pages 6 and 7 of this book as printed and commonly known as the "Proprietors' Records" is an entry of the lands of

"John Pratt in the Towne one house wth a garden & Backside about one rood Sam Greenhill southeast springe Streete Southwest Will Spencer northwest Creeke Lane northeast

"Moore in Westend about Three acers and a halfe Thomas Hosmer on the southeast and John Talcott northwest The high way to Watertowne on the northeast Anthony Coldbey on the southwest

"Moore by the pine Swampe about fiue acers John Hopkinds on the southeast the hither pine swampe on the southwest Anthony Colby north west the farther pine Swamp on the northeast"

It will be noticed that the Pratt homestead adjoined land of William Spencer. The record of the Spencer lands shows that this was the latter's residence.[7] William Spencer removed in the summer of 1639 to Hartford, Conn., where he died leaving a will dated May 4, 1640, in which he appointed "my brother John Pratt" with two others to "haue the Ouersight of my Estate".[8]

Governor Winthrop in his History of New England makes this statement under date of November 3, 1635:

"At the court of assistants, John Pratt of Newtown was questioned about the letter he wrote into England, wherein he affirmed divers things, which were untrue and of ill report, for the state of the country, as that here was nothing but rocks, and sands, and salt marshes, etc. He desired respite for his answer to the next morning; then he gave it in writing, in which, by making his own interpretation of some passages, and acknowledging his error in others, he gave satisfaction. This was delivered in under his own hand, and the hands of Mr. Hooker and some of the ministers, and satisfaction acknowledged under the hands of the magistrates."[9]

This "answer" with the endorsements of the ministers is printed in full in the Records of Massachusetts, volume 1, pages 358 to 360.

Although his answer and acknowledgement of error were accepted by the authorities, this action may not have removed all feeling against him because of his letter, and perhaps was one reason which induced him to remove to the valley of the Connecticut.

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[7] Proprietors' Records of the Town of Cambridge, 1635-1829, p. 5.

[8] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 449, 450.

[9] Winthrop's History of New England, edited by James Savage, Boston, 1853, vol. 1, pp. 206, 207.

February 8, 1635-'36, there were entered on the Cambridge Records

"The Names of Those men whoe haue houses in the Towne at this present as onely are to be acconted as houses of the Towne".

In this list we find the name of John Pratt[10] indicating that if not still a resident he had not sold his homestead. On page 52 of the printed "Proprietors' Records" we find this homestead recorded to "Joseph Isack" as "Bought of John Pratt". There is no date to this entry, but an examination of other entries indicates that the record was made in 1639.

April 11, 1639, Pratt had become a resident of Hartford, and at a session of the General Court which opened that day was one of the "Committees",[11] later called Deputies. He was also a Deputy to the General Court of August 8 and September 10, 1639; January 16, 1639-'40; February 8, 1640-'41; April 9, September 9, November 9, 1641; January 5, 1641-'42 and May 17, 1655.[12]

In 1639 there were entered on the Hartford Town Records

"The Names of such Inhabitants as haue Right in vndivded Lands."

The thirty-sixth name in the list is that of "John Pratt".[13]

January 3 of this year the inhabitants of the town agreed upon an apportionment of the common lands among the inhabitants, in accordance with which John Pratt was to receive twenty-six acres as his share of such division.[14]

January 14, 1639, John Pratt was one of the committee of ten appointed with the Townsmen to rectify all mistakes in the allotment of the land among the inhabitants.[15]

In July 1640 he and Richard Goodman were appointed to apportion the fences of the North Meadow lands, and in February 1640-'41 he was appointed on a committee to divide the lands on the east side of the Great River.[16]

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[10] Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge, 1630-1703, pp. 16, 18.

[11] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 27.

[12] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 29, 34, 41, 58, 64, 67, 69, 70, 274.

[13] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6. pp. 16, 17.

[14] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 21, 23.

[15] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 13, 14.

[16] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 33, 42.

At a town meeting held October 30, 1643,

"It was further ordred the sam genral meetting that ther shold be abeel rung by the wach euery morn an hower befoor day break: and that thay that ar apoynted by the constable for y^t purpose shal begin at the breadg and so ring the beal al the way forth and back from from mastar modies willicees hill to John prats gat and y^t ther shal be in eury house on up and haue mad some lith within on querter of an hower after the end of the beal ringing: or if he can prou the beal is rung befor the tim apoynted then to be up with lith as befor mentioned halfe an hower before day break: & for defalt heerin is to forfet: 1^s: six peanc to be to him y^t finds him falty and six pence to the towne"[17]

In an inventory of the town property made "February the 23th 1654", are these items:

"some shott at Goodman prats: the towne Chayne at Richerd Butlers: the towne Clock at good Prats"[18]

He was chosen one of the Townsmen, later called Selectmen, in January 1641-'42 and February 1653-'54; Constable, February 3, 1644-'45, and Surveyor of Highways, January 27, 1647-'48.[19]

"At atowne meating the 15th of march 1654".....

"it was voted and agread that W^m wadsworth and John Pratt shall cary and end the Biusenes concerning the riuers mouth at the generall Court as far as they can:"[20]

On page 109 of the "Book of Distributions", or the first volume of Land Records of the town of Hartford, is this entry:

"Febr: Anno dom: 1639:"

"Severall parcells of land in Hartford vpon the river of Cannecticott belonginge to John . Pratt & to his heires foreuer:

Viz: One: parcell on which his dwellinge house now standeth with other outhouses, yards & gardens, therein beinge containinge by estimacon two acres (more or lesse) abuttinge vpon the highway leading from the Palasado vnto the Centinell hill on the East, & the high way from Seth Grants vnto the Centinell hill on the west & John Mainards lands on the North & Mr Hains his land on the South"

This description of the home-lot locates it on the west side of Main Street a little north of Asylum Street.

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[17] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 65, 66.

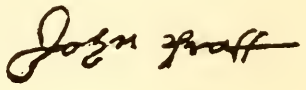
[18] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 105, 106.

[19] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 58, 102, 75, 84.

[20] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 106.

He also had lands in the West Field, North Meadow, Little Meadow, Cow Pasture, Little Ox Pasture, the Neck and on the east side of the Great River.[21]

Document 3 in volume 1 of Private Controversies in the Connecticut State Library is a deed from John Moody to George Wyllys dated February 3, 1644. One of the persons signing as a witness was



He was on the jury of the County and Particular Courts in September 1643, July 1650, February 1650-'51, September and December 1651, December 1652 and 1654.[22]

The records of a session of the Particular Court held June 6, 1644, show that

"John Pratt is freed frō watching, according to the pʳmise of the Generall Court"

and at a session held June 1, 1654,

"John Pratt Senioʳ is freed from watching & warding".[23]

Among the records of a session of the General Court held at Hartford on the second of March 1651-'52, is this entry:

"This Courte orders that the Treasurer shall pay to Richard Goodman and John Pratt, for the carrying on of the necessary worke aboute the prison howse, out of the next Rate, thirty pounds in such pay as the Rate is to bee paid in this Towne."[24]

By referring to the will of John Pratt, dated October 11, 1654, hereafter given, it will be seen that at that time he had a wife named ELIZABETH. Thus far nothing has been discovered to show whether he was married more than once.

As will be shown later, his two sons John, who is supposed to have been the elder, and Daniel were both made freemen of

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[21] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", pp. 109-111.

[22] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 93, and Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, pp. 11, 17, 27, 29, 37, 57.

[23] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 106, 108, and Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 52.

[24] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 229, 230.

Connecticut in February 1656-'57. If Elizabeth was the only wife of John the emigrant and the mother of these two sons, the marriage probably took place as early as 1630 and, therefore, before his emigration from England.

Reference has been made to the will of William Spencer of Cambridge and Hartford, dated May 4, 1640, in which "my brother John Pratt" was appointed one of the overseers of the estate. As the record of the marriage of neither Pratt nor Spencer has thus far been discovered, the way in which they were related must remain a matter of uncertainty.

It has been stated that John Pratt was a Deputy from Hartford to the General Court at a session which began May 17, 1655. Against his name in the list of deputies at the beginning of the record of this session is written the word "absent".[25] It is suspected that he was prevented from appearing at the Court by reason of his sickness, which proved fatal.

The inventory of his estate, entered on the Probate Records following his will, shows that he "Deceased July: 15th: 1655:"[26]

"A Courte of magistrates in Hartford 2d Octobr 1655"

.....

"The Courte orders that the will and Inventory of John pratt shall be Recorded. His eldest Sonne is appointed by the Courte to administer his estate."[27]

The will, which is still preserved among the files of the Hartford Probate Court, reads as follows:

"The eleuenth of october 1654"

"The last Will & Testament of John Pratt of Harford

"I the said John Pratt hauing my perfect memory doe desire to leaue my Soule in the euerlasting arms of Jesus Christ & my Temporall goods to them hearafter mentioned

"I giue to Elizabeth my wife this Roome which we call the Parlour with the Bed & Beding thervnto belonging wollen & linnen as all her wearing Cloathes wollen & linnen together with all other houshould implements comfortabl to her outward neccessityes that shee shall haue the keeping of one Cow for her & neccessary firewood Cutt & laid ready for her burning & fiue pound starleing paid her yearely in good Country pay all this to be made good to her dureing the Time of her natural Lyfe/

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[25] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 273-274.

[26] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 90.

[27] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 82.

"I giue to my Sone John my now dwelling house with the out housing & my homelott with all the apurtenances to him & his lawfull heirs for euer

"I giue to my Sone John the two meddowe lotts in the North Meddow which came to me by the distribution of the Towne with all the apurtenances therof to him & his heirs for euer

"I giue vnto my Sone John that peece of meddow I bought of William Edwards with the apurtenances to him & his heirs for euer as alsoe the one halfe of my Vpland lotts lying in the woods allways provided y^{t} the said John Pratt doe make good the Conditions formerly mentioned to his Mother Elizabeth my wife my will is that the said house & household with the stocke y^{t} is then being both Corne & Cattle shall be wholy possest by my Sone John & his heirs my minde is that if my Sone John shall dy not haueing any Male Child then that he shall giue his Daughter or Daughters twenty pounds apeece at 18 yeers of age & in Casse a male Chile he shall inherit it at 24 in Casse he surviue his father & make good the Conditions to his Sisters my will is if my Sone John dy leauing a wife & children as aforesaid his wife shall inherit till the Children come of age & shee shall take her thirds & what hee shall giue her by will in casse noe male Child surrviue then the inheritanc to fall to my Sone Daniell making good the Conditions aboue mentioned.

"I giue to my Sone Daniell a persell or psells of meddow land which I bought of william Rescue with the vpland belonging to it in the necke with the apurtenances therof

"Alsoe my will is that within one yeere after my decease my Sone John shall pay or cause to bee paid to my Sone Daniell his heirs or assigns the full some of fourscore pounds in Current Country pay in Casse my Sone Daniell should desire a peece of my home Lott to build & dwell vpon then my mind is that my Sone John should freely graunt him one ackre to bee laid out wher it may best sute their Conveniences, this is my true mind & meaning as my last will

"in wittnes wherof I haue sett to my hand the day & Yeere aboue mentioned

JOHN PRATT"

(No witnesses)

An inventory of the estate was taken September 1, 1655 by John Talcott and William Wadsworth, which showed that the property, real and personal, was valued at £515–02–06, some of the items being,

Dwelling house and home-lot	£ 90–00–00
Eight acres of meadow	28–00–00
Ten acres of meadow bought of Will Edwards	55–00–00
His hither lot of 2 acres	10–00–00

Fifty acres of upland, 2 miles from town & ten acres	06–00–00
In debts abroad owing to the estate	108–00–00
"One pistall, one holbard; one fowling peece & one picke	02.05.00"
"Bandeleers & other implem[t]s	00.04.00"

According to the will of John Pratt made October 11, 1654, his wife Elizabeth was living at that date. This is the last, if not the only, mention of her on record, and thus far nothing has been discovered to show whether she survived him or not, and, if so, how long.

CHILDREN OF JOHN PRATT.

JOHN	b. perhaps before February, 1635-36;[28]	mar.	1, Hannah Boosey.[29] 2, Hepzibah Wyatt[30] and lived in Hartford, Conn.
DANIEL	" perhaps before February, 1635-36;[28]	"	Hannah ———[31]

DANIEL PRATT, son of John Pratt the emigrant, may have been born as early as February 1635-'36, because in February 1656-'57 he was made a freeman of Connecticut.[32] He was but a young child when his father removed with the other settlers to Hartford, Conn., which became Daniel's permanent residence.

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[28] John and Daniel Pratt were made freemen of Connecticut, Feb. 26, 1656-57. Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 292.

[29] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 17, James Boosey will; Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 85; Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 83, and "Private Controversies", vol. 1, document 62, and vol. 2, document 184, Conn. State Library.

[30] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, reverse end, p. 59, list of children following John Wyatt's inventory; Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 5, pp. 19, 51 and Probate Files, John Pratt's estate; vol. 8, reverse end, p. 128, will of Hepzibah Sadd, and Hatfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, folios 98, 99, 105, marriage of Isaac Graves and Sarah Wyatt and births of daughters Mary and Lydia.

[31] Gravestone in Centre Church burying ground, Hartford, Conn.

[32] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 288, 292.

In the list taken October 13, 1669, of the freemen living in Hartford on the north side of the river appears the name of "Dan: Pratt".[33]

In May, 1657, it was proposed to increase the military force of the colony by a body of horsemen, and in May of that year the General Court desired

"Mr. Clarke & John Allin . . . . to p^r^sent a list of the names of them that desire to bee troopers, at the next session of this Court, wch said Court is to approue of whom they see meet, there being to bee added to the former preuiledges, that if any troupers horse, being called forth by authority, bee killd in warre, the country shall pay for him; wch troup of horse, as well as the foot companies, are to bee vnder o^r^ Majors command."[34]

The records of the General Court of March 1657-8, show that

"The listed persons for Troopers presented to, & allowed by this Court, vnder the command of Major John Mason, are as follow:"—

Then are given the names of fourteen men from Hartford, seventeen from Windsor and six from Wethersfield. Among the Hartford names we find that of "Dan: Pratt".[35]

He was on the jury of the Connecticut Particular and Hartford County Courts in May 1657, September 1659, May and September 1660, March 1660-'61, January 1662, July 1663, March 1664-'65, June 1665, October 1667 and April 1673, and on the jury of the Court of Assistants in May and October 1669.[36]

He was chosen one of the Townsmen or Selectmen in February 1657-'58, February 1663-'64, and February 1671-'72;[37] a List-maker and Rate-maker in March 1660-'61,[38] and Fence-viewer in July 1662, December 1676, 1678 and 1680.[39]

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[33] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 518.

[34] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 298, 299.

[35] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 308, 309.

[36] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, pp. 99, 126, 135, 141, 146, 150, 186; vol. 3, pp. 5, 25, 32, 71, 130, and Colonial Records of New England, 1659-1701, pp. 2, 4, office of the State Secretary, Hartford, Conn.

[37] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 120, 142, 166.

[38] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 135.

[39] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 138, 175, 176, 183, 192, 193.

He was chosen to the then important office of Constable in February 1667-'68, and was sworn in at a session of the County Court held on the fifth of the following month.[40]

A petition from various inhabitants of the town of Farmington was presented to the General Court at the session held in October 1673, asking that lands at "Mattatock" might be granted for the purpose of making a settlement at that place, whereupon the Court appointed a committee to view the lands, and report at the session of the Court in the following May. One of the committee was Daniel Pratt.[41]

By the will of his father who died in July 1655, Daniel received a piece of meadow land which the testator bought of William Rescue, with upland in the Neck, so called; also "fourscore pounds in Current Country pay". The will further provided

"in Casse my Sone Daniell should desire a peece of my home Lott to build & dwell vpon then my mind is that my Sone John should freely graunt him one ackre to bee laid out wher it may best sute their Conveniences".[42]

On page 531 of the "Book of Distributions" is a record of the lands of Daniel Pratt under date of "Janu: 12th 1655".

The first piece which he bought of Nathaniel Ruscoe contained nine acres, more or less, with the house and barn thereon. It was bounded north by land of Isaac Graves, east by highway, south by land of William Wadsworth and west by land of Mr. Allen.

It is believed that for a time he lived on this property, which was evidently situated on the westerly side of the present Trumbull Street.

The other two pieces, which were also bought of Nathaniel Ruscoe, were four acres of land in the North Meadow and twenty acres of upland.

In volume 3 of "Private Controversies" in the Connecticut State Library are several papers relating to a suit brought against Daniel Pratt on account of cattle, which were found

[40] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, p. 154, and Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, p. 74.

[41] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 208, 210.

[42] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, John Pratt will, and Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 89.

trespassing on his lands, and which he impounded in his barnyard, some of which died there. Document 165, dated March 3, 1686-'87, is the testimony of Thomas Bishop confirmed by Mary Pratt and Sarah Pratt. Document 171, dated September 1, 1687, is the testimony of Daniel Pratt Senior and Sarah Pratt.

Mary Pratt and Sarah Pratt are believed to be Daniel Pratt's daughters, who were evidently unmarried at the dates above named.

The records of the Hartford County Court show that in September 1689 Daniel Pratt brought suit against widow Martha Allyn, claiming £77 damages because she had not compensated him for the maintenance of her son for seven years and eight months or thereabouts. Two months later he brought another suit against her because of her detaining his servant lad.[43] Roger Gipson of Saybrook died prior to December 6, 1680, leaving a widow Martha, three sons and one daughter. The widow married before September 1682, Thomas Allyn of Middletown, who died between October 15, 1688 and February 5 following.[44] Do these facts indicate any relationship between the families of Daniel Pratt and Roger Gipson?

Thus far no record has been discovered of the marriage of Daniel Pratt, and it is not now known whether or not he was married more than once. In the grave-yard, adjoining the First or Centre Church of Hartford, is a stone bearing this inscription:

HANNAH
PRAT. The WIFE
OF DANIEL PRAT.
AGED ABOVT. 50:
YEARS DYED SEPT 3:
ANO DOM: 1682:

It is suspected that she was the daughter of Andrew Warner of Cambridge, Hartford and Hadley. Warner made his will June 18, 1681, in which he made bequests to "my daughter Hills" and "my daughter Pratt".[45]

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[43] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 5, pp. 1, 4.

[44] Ibid., vol. 4, reverse end, p. 96, Roger Gipson estate; vol. 5, reverse end, p. 59, will of Martha Allyn, and Probate Files, Thomas Allyn will of October, 1688.

[45] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, p. 248.

As the wives of John Pratt Junior are known to have been Hannah Boosey and Hepzibah Wyatt, his brother Daniel was the only member of the Hartford Family who could have married a daughter of Andrew Warner.

April 19, 1690, Daniel Pratt made his will, being

"at p[r]sent under weakness of body & know not how soon the Lord may put an end to my dayes, now being of Good understanding & memory I desire to set my house in order & to bestow & dispose of that estate God hath betrusted me with by this my last will & Testament that peace may be continued among my children when I shall be layed in the dust."

.....

"I haue great Reason & desire heartily to bless God for the good agreement & loue that I haue lived to se amongst my children as well as their Tenderness towards my selfe which God wil reward so now I desire to commit them to that God that hath cared for me all my dayes comanding them to loue fear & serue him who will be their God as he hath been there fathers God & will bless them If they so doe".

He gave the "house & land where at present I dwell both In the meadow & the upland In Hartford & in Windso[r] Bownds wth all other my Buildings & orchards & Gardens there in", and other lands to his son Daniel and his heirs lawfully begotten forever, Daniel paying his sisters the legacies given them by the will. If Daniel should leave no heirs, the property was to go to the testator's daughters. He directed that the household goods should not be inventoried, as they were to be given to all the children. His stock of tools, implements of husbandry and other personal property were given to his son Daniel to enable him to pay the legacies. The testator gave to his seven daughters £35 each. The amount that each one had received was to be computed as a part of such child's share.

Hannah had already received four acres in the Pine Field, five acres in the Little Ox Pasture, and personal estate amounting in all to £29.

"Daughter Goodin" had been given a wood-lot over the Blue Hills, adjoining that "he bought of Thomas Cadwell", which, with some personal property amounted to £33–10–00.

His daughter Mary Sanford had received some personal estate valued at £15–05–00. He now gave her his lot of two acres in the lower end of the Hartford Meadow worth £20, making a total value of £35–05–00.

His son Daniel was to make up the portions to the daughters of £35 each out of the inventoried property, as he could spare,

and the remainder in corn and neat cattle at the current price, payable when the daughters were married or at such time as they might desire after arriving at eighteen years of age and at least twelve months after the death of the testator.

If any child died before receiving its portion, such share was to be divided among the survivors. The son Daniel was appointed sole executor.

William Goodwin of Hartford, who died in October, 1689, was the sexton and gravedigger for a number of years, and his son William succeeded him in these offices. A copy of the latter's list of burials is preserved among the treasures of the Connecticut Historical Society. From this we learn that Daniel Pratt was buried April 24, 1691.

One week later, Daniel Pratt's will, together with an inventory of the estate, was presented to the Hartford County Court, accepted and ordered recorded, the son Daniel qualifying as executor. The will is entered in full on page 106 of the reverse end of volume 5, of the County Court Records, and on page 107 of the same volume is an inventory of the estate, which was taken two days previous to the probate action. This inventory shows that the total value of the estate, both real and personal, was £762–10–06.

CHILDREN OF DANIEL AND HANNAH ( ) PRATT

HANNAH	b.	mar.	Daniel Clark[48] of Windsor, Hartford and Colchester, Conn.
ELIZABETH	"	"	Nathaniel Goodwin[49] of Hartford, Conn.
SARAH	" about 1662[46];	" Nov. 13, 1690,	Timothy Phelps[50] of Windsor and Hartford, Conn.
DANIEL	"	" Mar. 10, 1691-2,	Elizabeth Lee[51] and lived in Hartford, Conn.
MARY	"	" after Mar. 3, 1686-7,	(Robert?) Sanford[52] of Hartford, Conn.
RACHEL	" about 1671[47];	" Feb. 22, 1693-4,	John Skinner[53] of Hartford, Conn.
ESTHER	"	died Oct. 7, 1702, unm.[54]	

In the absence of any record giving the dates of birth of these children it is not certain that they have been placed in the right order, but after a study of all the evidence obtainable, it is believed that the arrangement is nearly, if not absolutely, correct.

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[46] Widow Sarah Phelps died February 18, 1758, aged 95. Gravestone in the Centre Church burying ground, and Historical Catalogue of the First Church in Hartford, p. 265.

[47] Rachel, widow of John Skinner, died Aug. 17, 1748, in her 77th year. Gravestone in the Centre Church burying ground, Hartford, Conn.

[48] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 7, reverse end, p. 41, will of Esther Pratt, and Hartford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, pp. 59, 164.

[49] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 7, reverse end, p. 41, will of Esther Pratt, and vol. 8, reverse end, p. 266, Nathaniel Goodwin's will.

[50] Ibid., vol. 7, reverse end, p. 41, will of Esther Pratt, and Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 60.

[51] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, fly leaf 2.

[52] "Private Controversies", vol. 3, document 165, Conn. State Library; Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 7, reverse end, p. 41, will of Esther Pratt and Historical Catalogue of the First Church in Hartford, pp. 168, 170, baptisms of Thomas and Mary, children of Robert Sanford. A study of various Hartford Records makes it altogether probable that Mary Pratt's husband was Robert Sanford.

[53] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, fly leaf 2, and Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 5, p. 81.

[54] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 33. Her will dated October 6, 1702, and probated November 11 of the same year, is recorded on page 41 of the reverse end of volume 7, of the Hartford Probate Records. She gave her property to her brother John Skinner, brother Daniel Pratt, and sisters Hannah Clark, Elizabeth Goodwin, Sarah Phelps, Rachel Skinner and children of her deceased sister, Mary Sanford.

THE FAMILY OF

ANDREW WARNER

Among the genealogical papers of Royal R. Hinman in the possession of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, is a letter to him from Andrew F. Warner, dated Upper Middletown, Conn., May 14, 1849. Mr. Warner, in inquiring about the birth-place of his ancestor, ANDREW WARNER the emigrant, wrote:

"I have seen no record or account myself, but have lately received a letter from a Gentleman now nearly ninety years of age in Vt. I had written to him in regard to an old record of which I had heard, he answers it as follows—

'I have the old record, it runs as follows'—

'Our first ancestors came from Hatfield in Glostershire England, about ye year 1640, was the oldest son of John Warner Esqr yeoman in said shire and town, and was one of the first proprietors of Hartford town and moved from thence and settled in Hadley, and died in Hadley.

His name was Andrew, he had six sons and two daughters ec.'

"The above record is made in the old account book of Jabez Warner who was born in this place in 1710."

A study of the map of England shows that there is no Hatfield in the county of Gloucester but there is a small village named Hasfield six miles north of the city of Gloucester. Places of various size named Hatfield are located in the counties of Essex, Hereford, Hertford, Nottingham, Worcester and York. Whether the true location of Andrew Warner's birth-place is Hasfield or one of the numerous Hatfields is a subject for the future investigator.

In 1633 Andrew Warner had emigrated to America and become a resident of Newtown, later called Cambridge, in the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

There are entered on the Cambridge Town Records under date of the "7th of January 1632" several votes regarding the erection of houses in the town.[1] Immediately following these

[1] Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge, 1630-1703, Cambridge, 1901, p. 4.

votes is a record of the division of the common pales. This latter record gives in two columns the names of forty-two persons with the number of rods of pale or fence which each was to build. The eleventh line in the first column reads:

"Andrew Warner 20 Rod"[2]

The entry following the record of the division of the common pales is dated the fifth of August 1633.[2] The order of these votes on the Town Records would indicate that Warner was in the town before the last mentioned date.

On November 4 of the same year there was made a grant of "Lotts for Cowyards".

Andrew Warner received "1 Acker". On the fifth of the following January he bought a piece of "swampe ground by the ould feild" and on the second of the next month in the division of the planting ground in the Neck he was given three acres.[3]

He was made a freeman of the Massachusetts Bay Colony on the fourteenth of May 1634.[4]

In April 1634 the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony passed a law which required the inhabitants of each town to choose four or more of their chief men who with the constable of the town should make a record of the lands of each of the inhabitants and within six months thereafter send a transcript thereof to the colonial officials.[5] In accordance with this law the inhabitants of Cambridge in the latter part of 1634 chose four men to act with the constable, Andrew Warner being one of the persons so chosen.[6]

At the annual town meeting held November 23, 1635,

"ther was then Chossen to order bussines of the whole Towne for the year following and vntell new bee Chossen in their rooms"

nine persons of whom Andrew Warner was the third mentioned,

"wch nyne men are to haue the power of the whole Towne as those formerly Chossen hadd"[7]

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[2] Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge, 1630-1703, Cambridge, 1901, p. 5.

[3] Ibid., pp. 6-7.

[4] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 1, p. 369.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 116.

[6] Proprietors' Records of the Town of Cambridge, 1635-1829, p. 2.

[7] Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge, 1630-1703, pp. 13-14.

The following votes entered on the Cambridge Records illustrate the manner of doing town business in the early days and may be of interest to Warner's descendants:

"The 4th January 1635"

. . . . . .

"It is further ordered that the burryinge place shalbee palled in: wherof John Taylcot is to doe 2 Rodd Georg Steele 3 Rod and Agate Thomas Hosmer 3 Rod Mathew Allen—1 Rodd and Andrew warner apointed to get the Remainder done at A publik Charge & he is to haue iiis A Rodd"[8]

The 8th February 1635"

. . . . . .

"Agreed with Andrew Warner and John [ ] to sett vp A doble Rayle from Westend [ ] to the Pyne Swampe for the Cowes [ ] kept in nights and to haue xvid [ ] [ ] to be done before the midle of A[pril?F.F.S.]"[9]

"The 4th of Aprill 1636"

. . . . . .

"Andrew Warner and Joseph Cooke to make a rate for the deuision of the Aylwifs"[10]

"The 23th Aprill 1636"

. . . . . .

"Agreed wth Andrew Warner to fetch home the ayl[ ] from the weir and he is to haue xvid a Thowsan and load them himselfe for Caredge and to haue power to take anny man to help him he payeinge of him for his woorke"

"Andrew warner Apointed to see A Cartway made to the weire"[11]

Mention has been made of an enactment by the Massachusetts Bay General Court requiring a record to be kept of all lands and that Andrew Warner was one of those chosen in Cambridge to supervise the work in that town. The entry of his homestead on the Cambridge Records reads as follows:

"June The 4th [1635]

"ANDREW WARNER In the Towne one Howse and about one Roode for a Backside and garden Marsh Lane on the south west Creeke Lane one the northwest Will Kellsey northeast. Mathew Allen on the southeast."[12]

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[8] Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge, 1630-1703, p. 15.

[9] Ibid., pp. 16, 17.

[10] Ibid., pp. 21, 22.

[11] Ibid., p. 22.

[12] Proprietors' Records of the Town of Cambridge, 1635-1829, p. 11.

According to Paige's History of Cambridge, Marsh Lane is now known as Eliot Street and Creek Lane as Brattle Square. It will be readily seen that this places the homestead in the historic part of Cambridge only a few rods from Harvard University grounds.

Beside this homestead he owned one acre in the West end, three and one-half acres in Ox Marsh, also one half acre with a house in Ox Marsh, twelve and one-half acres in Old Field, eighteen acres in the Neck and about fifteen acres in the Great Marsh.[13]

It is well known that the settlement of the three towns, Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor on the Connecticut River, was begun in 1635 by emigrants from Massachusetts, Hartford being largely settled by people from Cambridge. On page 38 of the manuscript or pages 41-42 of the printed Proprietors' Records of the town of Cambridge, is entered the memorandum of a sale on December 20, 1636, by Andrew Warner to George Cook of the former's dwelling house, homestead and all his other lands in the town. The record does not disclose the residence of either party to the transaction, consequently it is impossible to determine whether Warner was still living at Cambridge or made this sale after he had located elsewhere. He is believed to have gone directly to the settlement on the Connecticut River which for a few years was called Newtown and later Hartford.

Among the records of a town meeting held in Hartford December 23, 1639, is an entry showing the appointment of Andrew Warner and five other persons as a committee. Except the names of those appointed but little is legible and that evidently relates to the viewing of some land.[14]

This record indicates that Warner had become a resident of Hartford prior to that date.

In February 1639 a description of his home-lot was entered on the Town Records in these words:

"One parcell on which his dwellinge house now standeth with other out houses, yards, or gardens therein beinge, Containinge by Estimacoñ two acres, more or lesse, abuttinge on the high way lyinge on the South side of the little river on the North, and on the high way Leadinge

[13] Proprietors' Records of the Town of Cambridge, 1635-1829, pp. 11-12.

[14] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, p. 10.

from Georg Steels to the South meadow on the South and on Samuell Wakemans Land on the East, and on Nathaniell Wards Land on the West."[15]

This locates his residence on the north side of the present Charter Oak avenue a little east of Main street.

Like other residents he owned lands in various sections of the town.

In 1639-'40 there were entered on the Town Records

"The Names of such Inhabitants as have Right in vndivded Lands".

The fifteenth name in the list is that of Andrew Warner.[16]

January 3, 1639-'40, the inhabitants of Hartford entered into an agreement as to the proportion each resident should receive in the division of common lands, evidently based on their financial rating.

The largest apportionment, that of one hundred and sixty acres, went to "John Haynes Esqr." The smallest division was three acres. Only eight persons had larger shares than Andrew Warner who was allotted eight-four acres.[17]

At a town meeting held January 14, 1639-'40, a committee consisting of Messrs. Hopkins, Welles, Webster, Steele, Talcott, Warner and others, was appointed to act with the townsmen in adjusting the allotments of the inhabitants in the undivided lands as some of them had larger shares than were considered just.[18]

In January and February 1640-'41 he was on a committee to divide the lands on the east side of the Great River.[19]

At this time his abilities were recognized by the General Court of Connecticut, for on the 8th of February, 1640-'41, he was appointed on a committee of six, consisting of two men from each of the towns of Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor to consider and report at the next General Court

"how the grownd belonging to the seuerall Plantations may be best imp^rued, so as to sute ech others conuenience, whereby their Corne may be p^rserued and their Cattle Keepte wth lest chardge of fencing or

[15] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", p. 61.

[16] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, p. 16.

[17] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 21-22.

[18] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 13-14.

[19] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 39, 42.

herding, as may most conduce to the comon good . . . . . for the pʳuenting of differenses that may arise betwixt the Plantations frō trespasses by Cattle"[20]

"At a Ginerall Toune metting" held in Hartford, January 27, 1647-'48, he with four others was appointed to survey the common lands and fences.[21]

In January 1639 and 1647 he was chosen a Surveyor of Highways and in January 1640 he and two others were appointed to lay out highways in the South Meadow and the Forty Acres.[22]

There is no mention of Andrew Warner on the Hartford Town Votes from January 1647-8 to April 1650.

He had become interested in the settlement of the adjacent plantation of Farmington. On page 36 of the second volume of Land Records of that town under date of March 1648 is entered a description of his lands there.

The first piece contained five acres more or less "on which his dwelling house now standeth", and was bounded north on the common, south on the highway, east on land of William Lewis and west on land of Matthew Webster.

By referring to the map of Farmington in the second volume of the Memorial History of Hartford County, it will be seen that this lot is on the north side of the highway facing Main street and is now (1912) the property of the Country Club. He had also ten acres in the "Slipe", twenty-two acres in the Lower Meadow and one hundred acres in the Great Meadow. His residence in Farmington must have been brief, for in February, 1650, his home-lot is recorded as the property of William Lewis.[23]

In the description of his Hartford homestead his neighbor on the west was Nathaniel Ward. Warner evidently returned to Hartford, for on the records of the Particular Court of a term beginning March 7, 1649-'50 is this entry:

"This Courte Adiudges Natha: warde and Andrew warner to pay Thomas Lord for Curing the eare of the Indian Squaw wᶜh theire doggs bitt of, and to pay the squaw 2 bush: of Indian Corne, wᶜh Corne, the next Indian or Indians that Shall any way by clapping hands or throwing

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[20] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 58, 60.

[21] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 84-85.

[22] Ibid., vol 6, pp. 13, 84, 39-40.

[23] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 68.

stones at any dogg or doggs, prouoake them, shall pay to the said warde againe"[24]

At a town meeting held April 15, 1650, he and five others were given

"power to set in order the worke of the high wayes belonginge to both sides of the Towne & to establish the same."[25]

The record of the same meeting shows that he and John White had agreed

"to make a fence crosse the riuerett & to Indeauor keepe the same for seauen yeares for the keepinge of cattell & swine out of the meadowes that they shall haue for their Labor ffowerty shillings by the yeare to be payd them wth in the yeare in euery of the sayd seauen yeares."[25]

November 9, 1652, he was one of a jury of eight who certified as to the death of Thomas Sleade.[26]

In May, 1657, he, with William Wadsworth and Goodman White, was appointed by the Court of Magistrates to appraise lands of Thomas Demont then in the custody of the Marshal and in September of the following year he served on the jury of that court.[27]

At a General Court held in May 1657, "Mr. Clarke & John Allin" were desired to present to the next session of the Court

"a list of the names of them that desire to bee troopers, ... wch said Court is to approue of whom they see meet, there being to bee added to the former preuiledges, that if any troupers horse, being called forth by authority, bee killd in warre, the country shall pay for him; wch troup of horse, as well as the foot companies, are to bee vnder o^r^ Majors command."[28]

This list which was not presented until the session of March 11, 1657-'58, comprised fourteen Hartford men, seventeen from Windsor and six from Wethersfield. The name of Andrew Warner appears in the Hartford list.[29]

[24] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 3.

[25] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, p. 92.

[26] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 38.

[27] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 99, 117.

[28] Colonial Records of Connecticut vol. 1, pp. 298-299.

[29] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 308-309.

In a description of his home-lot on the Hartford Records entered "Feb: Anno dom: 1639", Andrew Warner is designated as "Deacon to the Church of Christ there."[31] In the absence of other records bearing on the subject it is impossible to determine when he was chosen to this office, though some writers have conjectured that it was at the organization of the church in Cambridge.

Upon the death in 1647 of his pastor Reverend Thomas Hooker, the latter's associate, Samuel Stone, became pastor.

In a few years differences arose between Mr. Stone and a considerable number of the inhabitants which for a long time greatly disturbed the peace of the town and colony.

Attempts were made by the General Court and various advisory bodies to end the quarrel.

Warner belonged to the anti-Stone party and with twenty others signed a letter dated March 12, 1655-'56, in which they stated their inability to accept the suggestions of the other side and asked for

"an Able and Indifferent Councell mutually chosen, wch wee desire may bee indeauored and attended wth as much speed as may bee."

This letter is printed in full on pages 54 and 55 of volume 2 of the Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society.

George Leon Walker, D.D., pastor and historian of the First Church, Hartford, after reviewing this controversy concludes that

"On the whole, respecting the controversy itself which turmoiled the Church so long, the impartial verdict of history must be, that spite of many irregularities and doubtless a good deal of ill-temper on both sides, the general weight of right and justice was with the defeated and emigrating minority."[32]

In this view Doctor Edwin Pond Parker, historian of the Second Church, Hartford, concurs.[33]

Finding all attempts at reconciliation impossible, a number of the residents of Hartford with some of their friends from Wethersfield and Windsor entered into the agreement herewith given which resulted in the founding of Hadley, Massachusetts.

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[31] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", p. 61.

[32] History of the First Church in Hartford, p. 175.

[33] History of the Second Church of Christ in Hartford, p. 42.

"At A meting at Goodman Wards house in Hartford Aprill 18th 1659 the Company there mete Ingaged them selues (vnder their owne hands or by their Deputies whom they had Chosen) to remoue themselues and their ffamilies out of the Jurisdiction of Conecticut Into the Jurisdiction of the Mattatusets as may Apeare in A paper Dated the day and yeare Abouesaid: the Names of the Ingagers are these: John Webster: Will: Goodwin John Crow Nath: Ward John White John Barnard Andrew Baccon Will: Lewis Will: Westood Rich: Goodman John Arnold Will Partridge Gregory Wilterton Tho: Standley Sam: Porter Rich: Church Osias Goodwin ffrancis Barnard James Ensigne Geor steele John Marsh Robt Webster Will: Lewis:J: Nath: Standley Sam: Church Willyam Markum Sam: Moodey Zach: ffeild Wid: wasle Wid Watson And: Warner Mr Russell Nath: Dickinson Sam: Smith Tho Colman Mr Russell:Se: John Dickinson Philip Smith John Coltman Tho: Welles James Northam Sam Gard[ner] Tho: Edwards John Hubert Tho: Dickinson Robt Boultwood Sam: Smith Ju: Will: Gull Luke Hitchcocke Rich: Mountigue John Latimer Peter Tilton John Haks Rich: Billing Ben: Harbert Edw: Benton John Catling Mr Hooker Captin Culike not fully Vnder this Ingagement Daniell Warner A house Lot: ppspe(?)"[34]

They agreed to remove to the lands bought by them on the east side of the Connecticut River opposite Northampton before September 29, 1660. April 25, 1659, they held another meeting when they appointed a committee of five to go to the new territory, lay out fifty-nine home-lots of eight acres each with a highway twenty rods wide between the two westernmost tiers of lots. By the 9th of November, 1659, the new plantation had been begun to which some of the party had removed. On that date at Hartford and about the same time at Wethersfield and Hadley, seven men were chosen to take charge of public affairs "that concern the good of the plantation for the year ensuing."[35]

Andrew Warner sold his Hartford homestead to William Loveridge of Hartford, the entry in the Town Records being dated November 18, 1659.

The consideration was £130

"to be payd one third part In wheat the other third part in peas, both at the price Currant and ye other third part in suteable Hatts the corn to be payd in at the Comon landing place or any House in Hartford as the sayd Andrew or his assigne shall appoynt, the corn to be sweet &

[34] Hadley, Mass., Town Records, 1659-1719, old p. 153, new folio 77.

[35] History of Hadley, Mass., by Sylvester Judd, 1863, p. 20; 1905, p. 12.

clean & euery way well Conditioned & the hats to be two shillings in the pownd cheaper then I sell thos sorts By retayle"[36]

Whether he had removed to Hadley at this date is uncertain, but he must have been there some time before the limit set for removal, September 29, 1660, for

"At a Towne meeteing at Andrew werners House Octob 8: 1660:"

action was taken regarding the admission of inhabitants.

The votes passed at this meeting were signed by twenty-eight men, Andrew Warner's name being seventeenth in the list.[37]

His fellow-townsmen of Hadley continued him in public life as he had been in Cambridge and Hartford.

At an election held December 14, 1660, supposed to have been the first one after his removal to Hadley, he was chosen one of the Townsmen, later called Selectmen. He was also chosen to this office in January, 1667, and 1673.[38]

In the order of the General Court of Massachusetts Bay made May 28, 1659, appointing a committee to lay out the bounds of the town, it is stated that

"there are many desirable psons hauing a pastor wth his church engaged to goe along wth them, wth another who may in tjme be joyned to that church for theire further helpe in the worke of the ministry."[39]

Among the names appended to the agreement for removal signed in Hartford, April 18, 1659, appears that of "Mr. Hooker." This refers to Reverend Samuel Hooker, the son of the Hartford pastor, at that time preaching in Springfield.

December 17, 1660, Andrew Warner was one of a committee

"chosen to meet and Confere together to send Some posissions to Mr Hooker About his Remouell to vs."[40]

What the committee did in the matter the records do not disclose, but it is well known that instead of coming to Hadley, Mr. Hooker became the pastor of the church in Farmington, Connecticut, where he died.

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[36] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", p. 62.

[37] Hadley, Mass., Town Records, 1659-1719, folio 80, and Judd's History of Hadley, 1863, p. 22; 1905, p. 14.

[38] Hadley, Mass., Town Records, 1659-1719, folios 4, 23, 27.

[39] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 4, part 1, p. 368.

[40] Hadley, Mass., Town Records, 1659-1719, folio 3.

One year later on December 12, 1661, the town voted to build a meeting house in the common street and "Goodman Warner" was appointed one of the committee to take charge of the work.[41]

In March 1662-3 he with others was directed to treat with the town of Northampton about the lay-out of the highway through the meadows of that town.[42]

February 13, 1664, he was chosen on a committee

"to view the way to the mouth of Chickopay River & to the Falls in the Great River, to see if it is a feasible way for transporting goods & to confer with Springfield & Northampton men about it."[43]

In August 1663, November 1664, and September 1665, he was one of a committee appointed to view and report concerning lands which certain inhabitants of the town had desired to have set out to them.[44]

July 11, 1666, the town offered to give some land for the benefit of the Grammar School and Warner was one of the committee to lay it out.[45]

In the following March a new committee including Warner was empowered to let out the land.[46]

"ffeb 15 1667" it was

"Voted by the Inhabitants on the East side that leef^{t} smith nath^{l} dickinson Andrew warner william Partrigg and Samuell Moodie shall be a Committee to prouide a Boate ffor the fferrye who shall haue power to call out all men that are willing to worke aboute the same rather then to pay their proportion in corne as allsoe to call out any they Judge most meete ffor the worke:"[47]

At various other dates he was on committees of importance and in March 1661, and September 1663, he served on the jury of the Hampshire County Court.[48]

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[41] Hadley, Mass., Town Records, 1659-1719, folio 6.
[42] Ibid., folio 15.
[43] Ibid., folio 21.
[44] Ibid., folios 17, 19, 20.
[45] Ibid., folio 21.
[46] Ibid., folio 22.
[47] Ibid., folio 84.
[48] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, pp. 4, 28.

Up to this time (1912) nothing is known as to the name of his first wife nor the dates of her birth, marriage and death.

His second wife was ESTHER or Hester, widow of Thomas SELDEN of Hartford, whom he must have married before December 3, 1663.

The following entry appears on the records of the Connecticut Particular Court held on the date above mentioned:

"Thomas Hosmore haueing presented to this Court a Complaynt against Andrew warner of Hadley, that he hath not giuen in standing securety to the ouer seers of the last will & Testement of Thomas Selding, for the performance of the Will afoarsayd, & to Answer an Ingagement made to the children of the Deceased, & his widow, This Court desire M^r willys to Informe Mr James Richards that it is the minde of the Court & there desire that he keep what estate he hath of the sayd Andrew warners In his hand untill he hath giuen In securety as afoarsayd to Answer the will & his engagement or untill he hath further order from the Court, & Goodman Hosmore is to giue notice to Andrew Warner to appeare at the next Quarter Court In march to Answer to this Complaynt, If he giue not sattisfaction In the mean time/"[49]

The records of the Court held in the following March show that the matter was disposed of thus:

"This Court frees the estate of Andrew Warner Senio^rs In m^r Richards hand he haueing giuen sattisfaction to the ouer seers of Tho: Seldens estate, for the payment of the Childrens portions;:"[50]

In March 1665 the legatees of John Barnard, a former resident of Hadley, brought suit against Warner for damages through the destruction by fire of a malt house he was using which belonged to Barnard's estate. The parties reached an amicable settlement and the case was withdrawn.[51]

The inference is that Andrew Warner was a maltster and this is confirmed by the following entry on an account book of John Pynchon, the leading citizen and merchant of Springfield:

"Goodm: Warner of Hadly ye Maulster Dr"

The debit side of the account runs from January 8, 1672, to September 18, 1674.

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[49] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 9.

[50] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 14.

[51] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, p. 46½.

The credit side, covering a period from February 28, 1671, to September, 1674, reads thus:

"By. 7 bush[l] of Malt 1672 at 4[s] 3[d]	01–09–09
July. 5. 1673. By. 33 bush & ½ of Malt at 4[s] 6[d]	07–10–09
Sep[t] 1674 By 30 bush of Malt at 4[s]	06–00–00
	15–00–06"[52]

The Proprietors' Record of the town of Hadley showing the individual ownership of lands in that town, was begun December 25, 1665.

On folio 15 of this volume appears the following entry:

"This record Bearing date this twentie third daye of ffebruarie in the yeare of our lord one thousand six hundred sixtie fiue witnesseth that the towne of hadley haue giuen and granted vnto Andrew werner an accomodation of lands acording to the rate or value of tow hundred pounds estate

"Viz one house lott containing eight acres more or lesse Bounded by the land of Stephen Terrie north and John marsh south abutting on the Comon Streete East and the plane west"

According to the map in Judd's History of Hadley, this homestead was on the west side of the original main street, directly opposite the residence of Reverend John Russell, the minister of the town.

The present highway leading to Northampton over which the electric street cars run, now bounds the property on the south.[53]

He also had six acres in the first division of plow land in the Great Meadow, eight acres in the lower end of the Meadow, three and three-quarters acres in the North Furlong, four acres in the Middle Furlong, four and one-half acres in the Maple Swamp, four acres one rood and six poles in the Forty Acres and over the river, six and one-half acres in the meadow called Great Pausett and five and one-half acres in the meadow called Little Pausett.[54]

The General Court of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay at a session held in October 1668 passed an act imposing a tax or custom on various kinds of merchandise and live stock imported

[52] John Pynchon Account Books, original no. 5, pp. 279, 280, City Library, Springfield, Mass.

[53] Hadley, no. 1, p. 239, Judd Manuscripts, Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.

[54] Proprietors' Record, Town of Hadley, Mass., folio 15.

into the colony.[55] The inhabitants of several of the towns became alarmed fearing that great hardships would ensue if the act was put into force.

That their fears were well-grounded, the following extract from the law would indicate:

"horses, mares & neate catle, of what age soeuer, five shillings a peece; wheate & all other graine, three pence for euery bushell;"[56]

Petitions from a few of the towns were sent to the colonial authorities and some of them are still preserved among the State archives. February 19, 1668, the inhabitants of the town of Hadley to the number of ninety-two signed a remonstrance which is printed in full on pages 89 to 91 of volume 9 of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register.

This list of names comprised nearly all the male population of the town who were of adult age.[57]

Among the names appended to this document are those of Andrew Warner and Isaac Warner.

In accordance with instructions from the home government the General Court in October 1678 passed an act requiring that "all his majestjes subjects wthin this jurisdiction that are of sixteene yeares of age & vpwards" to take the oath of allegiance to His Majesty Charles II.[58]

On page 124 of volume 1 of Births, Marriages and Deaths in the town of Hatfield is entered the names of those residents of the towns of Hadley and Hatfield who took this oath on February 8, 1678.

Among the Hadley names are those of "Andrew Werner" Senior, "Isaac Werner" and "Jacob Werner." In the list of Hatfield names is that of "Daniel Werner."

It will be noticed that in the record of those taking the oath the name is spelled Werner instead of Warner. This variation of the name is quite common on the records at Springfield, Northampton and Hadley.

It will be remembered that the Connecticut Particular Court in December 1663 obliged Andrew Warner to give security for

[55] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 4, part 2, pp. 388, 409.
[56] Ibid., vol. 4, part 2, p. 410.
[57] Judd's History of Hadley, 1863, pp. 83, 85; 1905, pp. 75, 77.
[58] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 5, pp. 192, 193.

the payment by him to the children of Thomas Selden of their shares in their father's estate which Warner had taken into his possession.

July 14, 1673, Andrew Warner with the consent of his wife Hester conveyed to Joseph Selden, a resident of Hadley, certain lands in that town. The consideration stated in the deed was £60, £40 of which was a legacy due to said Joseph from his father, Thomas Selden, and the remaining £20 being for labor done for said Warner by Joseph.[59]

March 8, 1678-'79, a similar deed was given by Warner and his wife Hester to Hannah Selden of Hadley, the consideration being £40 due from Andrew Warner to said Hannah as her share of her father's estate.[60]

By 1663 his eyesight was failing.

The following interesting item is found on pages 348, 349 of volume 2 of the Pynchon account books now preserved in the Springfield, Massachusetts, City Library:

	"Good[m]: Warner of Hadley Dr:"	
"Sep[t]. 30th.	.1. pr right Cristall spectacles .12[d].	
1663.	a Gilt Case. 10[d]	00–01 10
	To paym[t] on yo[r] Towne Aco[t] .1[d].18[s] wch yo ingaged to pay in to Deacon Stebbins last winter, but failed, & so I Set it here	01. 18 00
		01. 19 10"
	"Goodm Warner Cr"	
"Octob[r]	By .10. bush Wheate dld	
1663	to Deacon Stebbins wch he sent to ye Bay p Cox	02 00 00"

On the Hampshire County Records is found the following item under date of March 29, 1670:

"Andrew Warner of Hadley is freed from frō military exercises wth the company there:"[61]

On folio 20 of the original volume of "Births, Burials & Marriages by Families" of Hadley is this entry:

"Andrew warner died ieneWary 1684".

[59] Old Hampshire County, Mass., Deeds, vol. B, p. 16.
[60] Ibid., vol. A, folio 90.
[61] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, p. 115.

It will be seen that this entry does not give the day of the month which would indicate that the record was not made until some considerable time after his death. A more definite date is given in the inventory of his estate taken December 22, 1684, which reads thus:

"who dyed decembr 18 1684 aged about 90 years".[62]

The figures on the record indicating his age are somewhat blurred but a careful examination leads to the belief that they were intended for 90.

March 31, 1685, the last will of Andrew Warner, Senior, together with an inventory of his estate was presented to the Hampshire County Court by his son Daniel Warner. The will was accepted by the court and the estate ordered distributed in accordance therewith.[63]

The will, which is recorded in full on page 248 of volume 1 of the records of the Hampshire County Probate Court, reads as follows:

"I Andrew Werner of Hadley in the Countie of Hampshire in New England being through ye mercy of God Sound in mynde & Memory doe make & Ordeine this as my last Will & Testiment in Manner & fforme ffollowing

"Impr I Comitt my self Soule & Body into the hands of almightie God my havenly ffather & into ye Armes of the Lord Jesus xt my Only Redeemer & Saviour On whome On whome I desire Ever to repose & Stedfastly to beleive & my Body I leave it to bee interred with Christian & Comely buriall in Assured hope of a blessed Resurrection through the mercy of God Unto Eternall life at the Glorious appeareing of the Lord Jesus christ at the Last day, And ffor that Outward Estate the Lord hath Blessed me with all My Will is that after my just debts are payd & funerall Expences discharged as ffollowes

"It I give to my Loveing Wife Easter Werner according to a former agreemt Signed Under my hand One hundered Pounds to bee payd Out of my Moveable Estate Viz household Goods & Chattells & in case the sd Moveables amounts not to ye Sum aforesd then to be made up in Other Estate & this to be at her free & absolute dispose to her & to her heirrs for Ever

"I give to my Wife ye One half of my Now dwelling house to be for her use & improvement dureing the tyme of her Natureall life as

[62] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, folio 248.

[63] Ibid., vol. 1, folio 248, and Hampshire County, Mass., Court Records, vol. 1, p. 94.

alsoe the use of half the Garden plot ajoyneing to the sayd house as alsoe the use of half the Ortchard with the fruites thereon & the use of half the Yards ajoyneing to ye house all these to be for her use dureing the tyme of her Natureall life

"I give to my Son Jacob Werner ye One half of my dwelling house and ye whole of the s^d^ house at his mothers decease with the house-lot Containeing Eight acres with all Ediefices & buildings thereon to be to him & his heir^r^s for Ever

"I give to my Son Jacob Werner alsoe ten acres of Meadow land lyeing in ye great meadow belonging to Hadley Viz my Six acre Lot of plowing Land & four acres of grass Land lyeing in the Swamp or Aquevitie Comonly Soe called to be to him & his heir^r^s for Ever, That is the heir^r^s begotten by ye body of the sayd Jacob Werner, provided alsoe & withall that the s^d^ Jacob Werner hee his heir^r^s Executo^r^s & Assignes truely pay fortie shillings Anuallie or yearelie to his Mother Easter Werner dureing the tyme of her Natureall Life as alsoe to Cowes for his s^d^ Mother & to keepe & provide winter meate for them & all this dureing the Term of her Natureall life as alsoe anualy to bring home to his sayd Mother ten Load of wood dureing her life

"I give to my Son Dan^ll^ Werner all my Land lyeing Over the great River in great ponset & litle ponset being twelve acres more or Less to be to him & to his heir^r^s for Ever he paying within a Yeare after my decease ten pounds to his sister Ruth Werner & alsoe fortie shillings Anuallie to his Mother Easter Werner dureing the tyme of her Natureall Life

"I give to my Son Isaack Werner the One half of my alotment in Hoccanum to be to him & to his heir^r^s for Ever

"I give to my Daughter Ruth Werner fowr acres of Meadow in the great Meadow abutting against the Middle high way to be to her & to her heir^r^s for Ever,

"I give to my Son Andrew Werner ten shillings

"I give to my Son Robert Werner ten shillings

"I give to my Son John Werner ten shillings

"I give to my Daughter Hills ten shillings & to my Daughter Pratt I give ten shillings

"And my Will is that if my Moveables make not up ye hundered pound above Expressed to bee payd to my Wife it shall bee made up Out of the Other half of my Land in Hoccanum & of that two acres & One fowrth ajoyneing to the burieing place the Rest of what Remaynes of s^d^ p^r^sells I Leave to my Executo^r^s Only paying Out five Pounds which I give to Mary Taylo^r^ the wife of John Taylo^r^

"And of this My p^r^sent Testiment, I make & Ordaine my deere Wife Easter Werner and my Loveing Son Dan^ll^ Werner as mine Executo^r^s Revokeing & adnulling all & any Other Testiments, Wills, Legacies, bequeasts, Executo^r^s by me in any Wise before this tyme made, Named, Willed & bequeathed as Witness my hand & Seale this Eighteenth day of June Anno domini One Thousand Six hundered Eightie One

"Sealed & delivered & Subscribed Andrew Werner
in ye p^rsence & Witness of To wch Instruem^t was a Seale afix^t"
Marke Werner
Peter Tilton"

As before stated an inventory of his real and personal estate was taken December 22, 1684, four days after his death. This is entered in full on the County Probate Records immediately following his will.

The real estate was valued as follows:

"4 acres Ld in Hoccanum at 20^l	£020–00–00
2 aces & a rood at ye burieing yard 5^l house & homestead 65^l	070–00–00
6 acres in ye great meadow On the South side of ye Midle way at	030–00–00
4 acres in ye Swamp at 8^l 4 acres in s^d Meadow at 24^l	056–00–00
4½ acres in Hoccanum at 20^l One piece of skirts there at 2^l	022–00–00
12 acres of Land Over ye River at 55^l"	055–00–00

The rest of the estate consisted of clothing, household goods, grain, swine, sheep, etc., the total value of the estate being given as £356–11–04

The reader will perhaps have noticed that in his will Andrew Warner gave legacies of ten shillings only to each of his three sons, Andrew, Robert and John, also to daughter Hills and daughter Pratt. The smallness of the legacy to the daughters is probably explained by the fact that in the early days of the colonies it was frequently the custom when a daughter was married for the father to give her furniture and household goods with which to begin married life and in many cases this was all the property she received from him, the real estate being given to the sons. As to the three sons who were only given ten shillings each, a study of the land records of Farmington and Middletown, Connecticut, shows that he had given directly to or purchased lands for them. He evidently considered that the aid rendered them amounted to their full shares of his estate and he gave each of them this small legacy in order that they should not be wholly ignored in the will.

In volume A, folio 89, of the Land Records of Old Hampshire County at Springfield, is an entry made September 7, 1685,

of the personal property which Hester Warner received from her husband's estate under the legacy of £100. Immediately following this list is a receipt given the same day wherein she acknowledged the receipt of this legacy and discharged the executor Daniel Warner from any claims which she might have had by reason of such legacy. Two days later or September 9, 1685, Daniel Warner as executor of his father Andrew Warner's will conveyed to the latter's widow one-half of nine acres at Hoccanum and also a skirt lot at the same place.[64]

The writer of this sketch has not been able to find any record of the date of death of Hester, widow of Thomas Selden, and second wife of Andrew Warner, but it must have taken place before September 27, 1693, because on that date her two sons, Thomas Selden and Joseph Selden, both of Hadley, signed a bond for the faithful performance of their duties as administrators on her estate. This bond is preserved among the papers of the Hampshire County Probate Court in file 9 of box 129.

On the ninth of the following March, Thomas Selden, Joseph Selden and Jacob Warner, "Sons to Easter Worner alias Selding of Hadly deceased," filed a similar bond.

It will be noticed that in the second bond, Jacob Warner, supposedly the youngest child of Andrew Warner, is described as a son of Easter Warner, his second wife. Though called her son, he did not receive anything at the settlement of her estate, his share having been allowed him possibly at an earlier date. Nothing as yet has been discovered by which his age can be positively determined.

The Probate Records show that Easter or Hester Warner's estate as valued December 11, 1693, consisted of

household goods, furniture and lands worth	£99–15–03
The debts amounted to	9–15–03
leaving for distribution	£90–00–00

among Thomas Selden, Joseph Selden, Mary Taylor and Hannah Selden, the first of whom received a double share of £36 and each of the others a single share of £18.[65]

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[64] Old Hampshire County, Mass., Deeds, vol. A, folio 98.

[65] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 3, p. 5, and file 9, box 129.

CHILDREN OF ANDREW AND WARNER.

MARY	b.		mar. 1, Jan. 22, 1645-46	John Steele[66] of Farmington, Conn.
			2, before Jan. 25, 1669,	William Hills[67] of Hartford, Conn.
ANDREW	"	"	Dec. 10, 1653,	Rebecca Fletcher[68] and lived in Milford and Middletown, Conn.
ROBERT	"	"	1, Feb. 1654,	Elizabeth Grant[69]
			2, Feb. 2, 1674,	Deliverance (Haynes) Rockwell[70] and lived in Middletown, Conn.
JOHN	"	"	1649,	Anna Norton[71] and lived in Farmington and Middletown, Conn.
DANIEL	"	"	1,	Mary[72]
			2, Apr. 1, 1674,	Martha Boltwood[73] and lived in Hatfield, Mass.
HANNAH	" about 1632;	"	perhaps before 1660,	Daniel Pratt[74] of Hartford, Conn.
ISAAC	"	"	May 31, 1666,	Sarah Boltwood[75] and lived in Hadley, Mass.
RUTH	"	living unmarried June 18, 1681.[76]		

CHILD OF ANDREW AND ESTHER ( ) SELDEN WARNER.

JACOB	b.		mar. 1, before Nov., 1687,	Rebecca.[77]
			2, before Sept. 29, 1691,	Elizabeth Goodman[78] and lived in Hadley, Mass.

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[66] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 22.

[67] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, p. 95.

[68] Milford, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, p. 7, and p. 29 of Births, Marriages and Deaths in vol. 1 of Middletown, Conn., Land Records.

[69] P. 25 of Births, Marriages and Deaths in vol. 1 of Middletown, Conn., Land Records.

[70] Ibid., also Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 46, and Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 61.

[71] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 24; Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 38, and Records of the First Church, Middletown, Conn., unpaged.

[72] Hatfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, p. 110.

[73] Ibid., original vol. 1, p. 105.

[74] Andrew Warner in his will dated June 18, 1681, made a bequest to "my Daughter Pratt". It is reasonable to suppose that her husband belonged to the Pratt family of Hartford, Connecticut, where Warner resided for a number of years. John Pratt, the head of the Hartford Pratt family, had only two sons, John, Jr., and Daniel. John, Jr., had two wives, Hannah Boosey and Hepzibah Sad. In the graveyard around the First Church of Hartford is a stone to the memory of Hannah wife of Daniel Pratt who died September 3, 1682, aged about 50 years. One Esther Pratt of Hartford in her will dated October 6, 1702, and probated November 11 following (Hartford Probate Records, vol. 7, reverse end, p. 41), made bequests to her brother Daniel Pratt, her sisters Hannah Clark, Elizabeth Goodwin, Sarah Phelps, Rachel Skinner, and to the children of her deceased sister Mary Sanford. Daniel Pratt of Hartford left a will dated April 16, 1690, in which he gave his property to his son Daniel and to seven daughters, three of whom he mentions as Hannah, daughter Goodwin, and daughter Mary Sanford (Hartford Probate Records, vol. 5, reverse end, p. 106). It has been shown that Andrew Warner's second wife was widow Esther Selden. From all these facts it is inferred that Daniel Pratt of Hartford married Hannah, daughter of Andrew Warner, and named his youngest child Esther for his wife's step-mother, the second wife of Andrew Warner. Judging from the known ages of some of the Pratt children this marriage must have taken place as early as 1660.

[75] Hatfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, p. 70.

[76] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, p. 248, will of Andrew Warner.

[77] Hadley, Mass., "Births, Burials & Marriages by Families", original vol. 1, folio 20.

[78] Ibid., folio 20; Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, pp. 178, 188, Probate File 41, box 61, and Old Hampshire County, Mass., Deeds, vol. A, reverse end, folio 21.

THE FAMILY OF

GEORGE STOCKING.

The first that is known regarding GEORGE STOCKING, the head of the Connecticut Stocking family, is at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

"The 4th of August 1634" there was entered on the Town Records a list of "Lots Granted in Westend", one of them containing "½ Ackr" was granted to "Georg Stockine".[1] January 5, 1634-'35, he was granted a lot of four acres behind the "Pyne S[wamp]", and August 20, following, he was entitled to one acre of the "meaddow ground undeuided belonging to the Newtowne" which was ordered divided among the inhabitants of the town.[2]

His name appears in the list of "Freemen made att the Genall Court, May 6th, 1635".[3]

On original page 31 of "The Regestere: Booke of the Lands and Houses in the Newtowne 1635" under the date of "The 10th of October 1635", is found this record of his lands:

"George Stockine Jn the Towne one house wth backside Aboute halfe aroode William Lewis southwest Samuell Dudly north west Springe street Northeast Crooked street south east

"Moore by the Pyne Swampe aboute ffower Ackers the Ox Comon southwest and south east Charls Towne Pales North east Daniell Abbott North west"

The Cambridge Records show that he sold his house and the Pine Swamp lot to William Manning, to whom they were recorded, supposedly in 1639,[4] and probably during that year Stocking removed to Hartford on the Connecticut River, where many of the Cambridge settlers had already located.

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[1] Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge, 1630-1703, pp. 8, 9.

[2] Ibid., pp. 10, 11, 12, 13.

[3] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 1, p. 370.

[4] Proprietors' Records of the Town of Cambridge, 1635-1829, p. 54.

On page 368 of the "Book of Distributions" is this entry:

"Febr Anno dom: 1639"

"Severall parcells of land in Hertford vpon the River of Cannecticott belonging to George Stockin & to his heires forever

"Viz One parcell on which his dwelling house standeth wth outhouses, yards, & gardens, therein being Contayning by Estimation two acres (more or lesse) Abutting on the high way leading from Georg Steels to the south meadow on the North & on Georg Steels land on the South & on the west & on Stephen Posts land on the East"

He also had lands in the Little Meadow, South Meadow and on the east side of the Great River.

A study of the Land Records proves that the house-lot above described was located on the south side of what is now known as Buckingham street, a little east of Washington.

In 1639 there was entered on the Town Records a list of such inhabitants as have a right in undivided lands, one of whom was "Georg Stokin", and in the list showing the amount of each person's share in a division of the common lands George "Stocine" is set down for twenty acres.[5]

His life as an official of the town of Hartford began October 30, 1643, when

"It was further ordred y^{t} Robart day & william fillips for this sid the riuer & John Arnol: with Gorg stoking shal suruay the chimnys onc a month and see to the clensing them and if any shal refuse ther tim apoynted of clensing shal forfet 2^{s}-6^{d}"[6]

He was again chosen to this office February 11, 1658.[7]

January 27, 1647, he was chosen one of the Townsmen or Selectmen; and in February 1653, also February 1661, a Surveyor of highways. The record of the last election shows that he was to serve on the south side of the river.[8]

He served on the jury of the Particular and County Courts in June 1657; March 1658-'59; December 1662; October 1664 and '65; September 1666; March 1667-'68, and September 1668.[9]

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[5] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 16, 18, 21, 22.

[6] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 65, 67.

[7] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 123.

[8] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 84, 102, 103, 137.

[9] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, pp. 101, 122, 181, and Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, pp. 22, 42, 44, 53, 73, 78.

The records of "A Court of Election held at Hartford, May 17, 60", show that

"This Court doth free Michael Try, Richard Vore, Goodman Fossaker and Goodman Stocking, from traineing, watching and wardeing."[10]

There is nothing on record to show why these persons were freed from military duty, but it is suspected that it was on account of age. An examination of the records shows that in more than one instance a person was excused from these duties "being sixty years of age."[11]

Although he was relieved from military duty in 1660, he was considered competent to perform jury duty, and, as has just been shown, did so until 1668.

In the long and bitter quarrel at Hartford between Reverend Samuel Stone and some of his congregation, petitions and remonstrances from both parties were many times presented to the Connecticut General Court.

George Stocking was one of those actively engaged in the difficulty, and the records of the General Court, held in August, 1658, show that he with others made complaint regarding the matter, which was laid over for consideration until the October court.[12] This complaint is printed in full on pages 79-81 of the second volume of the Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society. From the wording of this document it will be seen that George Stocking was one of those who sided with the pastor, Samuel Stone, as against the "withdrawers", many of whom became founders of the town of Hadley, Massachusetts.

Among the names of those who became organizing members of the Second Church of Hartford, on February 12, 1669-'70, were George Stocking and "Agnis Stocking."[13]

It has been stated that in some of his appointments to town office Stocking was to serve on the south side of the river, and his name appears in the list of freemen "on ye South side" which was made in October 1669.[14]

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[10] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 347, 348.

[11] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 195, and Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, pp. 9, 28, 61.

[12] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 317, 318.

[13] History of the Second Church of Christ in Hartford, pp. 288, 290.

[14] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 518.

Thus far there has not been discovered any record of George Stocking's marriage. It has just been stated that an AGNES STOCKING was one of the persons admitted to full communion in the Second Church of Hartford at its organization in February 1669-'70. She is supposed to have been George Stocking's wife, and may have been his first wife, but some persons have suspected that she was the widow of Governor John Webster of Hartford and Hadley. Beyond the similarity of names, the writer of this article has thus far failed to find any evidence to warrant such a conclusion. Governor Webster made his will June 25, 1659, in which he provided for his wife Agnes, and gave her the use of his Hartford lands.[15] Ten years later Stocking's wife is supposed to have been named Agnes. If she was the widow of John Webster, she did not marry Stocking until after Webster's death in 1661, and therefore she could not have been Stocking's first wife and the mother of his children.

There is no record of her death, but it must have taken place prior to July 15, 1673, when George Stocking made his will in which he referred to his wife ANNA, regarding whom nothing further is known.

Document 96 in volume 2 of "Private Controversies" in the Connecticut State Library, is the original will which reads thus:

"I George Stockine of Hartforde vpon the riuer of Connectacut planter, Doe in this my Last will and testament, giue vnto Anna my wife, all my howsinge, barne orchards, home lott, vpland, meadow, and swamp land, cattell, and all my other estate, for hir to vse, Dureinge the time of hir lyfe and after hir Decease, to be Disposed off as followeth,

"I Doe giue to my Daughter Liddia Richards, the wife of John Richards, the sum of fiueteene pounds,

"I Doe allsoe heareby, giue to my Daughter Sarah Olcott, the wife of Samuell Olcott, the sum of ten pounds,

"I Doe allsoe heareby, giue the six children of Andrew Benton, senr. that is to Andrew Benton Jur, John Benton, Samuell Benton, Joseph Benton, Mary Benton, and Dorothy Benton, the sum of twelue pounds, to be equally deuided amonge them,

"I Doe allsoe heareby giue vnto Hanna Campe, one Mare,

"my will is that these legacies, shall be Discharged, within the space of one yeare next after my wiues Decease, my will allsoe is, that my wife shall keepe the howsinge and Barne in repayr, onlesse some thinge more than ordionary Doe befale any of them, my will allsoe is, that if any of my cattell, or other goods of mine, may be spared, my wife

[15] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, p. 20.

and my Executor, agreeinge together aboute it, may sell the same, and pay some legacie before giuen to whome they shall see meete, presently after my estate is prised, My Debts and these legacies beinge payd and my Desires in this my will beinge Attended, I Doe heareby, giue the remaynge parte of my estate, to my son Samuell stockinge, both howsinge, Land, and what euer else is not giuen away before, for him to possess and Inioy for euer

"I Doe allsoe heareby, make my son Samuell Stockinge, Executor of this my will, and Testament;

"Alsoe my will is that all my Land, shall paye accordinge to Its proportion, to the mayntenance, of the Ministry attended, at the new meetinge howse at Hartford;

"I haue Desired my two freinds Gregory Wolterton and Luftennant Thomas Bull to see this my will to be performed.

"In witnesse where off I haue heare vnto set my hand Dated this 15th Day of July in the yeare of our Lorde God 1673

"Subscribed and Deliuered
in the presence of vs

George
Gregory walterton the marke of G Stockinge "
George Graue Senr"

A memorandum dated November 11, 1682, in the handwriting of Colonel John Allyn, the Colonial Secretary, made changes in the disposition of the property bequeathed in the will.

This writing is document 98, in volume 2 of "Private Controversies", and reads thus:

"The land yt my son Saml Stocking and his son Samuel hath taken in & Improued of ye west side ye great Riuer at Midleton I doe giue it to them & yr heires for euer. & The one Third of the rest of all ye land that did fall to me in Midleton I doe reserue to my disspose & that land that Thomas Stoe & Samll Stocking haue fenced in it shall be to them & there heirs foreuer.

"To John Stocking I giue my eleven acres of mead in Hartford Sowth meadow & so much as shall be convenient to build. to extend from the High way to the fence that thwarts my lott at ye Barne End. & the fiue acres more or less that lyes next that land I gaue Samll Benton I giue to John Stocking it lyes Neer ye wolfe pound

"the rest of my Homlot I giue to my Grandsons Georg & Ebenezer Stocking I say the remainder of my Home lot & house & Barn to be Equaly diuided to ym.

"& My land at Midleton I giue to my grand children that haue not nothing giuen by this my will to be diuided between ym that noe child of them may haue aboue 20 acres upon which they may setle themselues & build cotages

"I confirm to John Richards that acre of mead land I gaue him. "my daughters shall haue portions of land^{s} wth my grand children./"

The records of the County Court held at Hartford, December 18, 1683, show that:

"this court haueing veiued that presented as the last will & Testament of Georg Stocking in the circumstances of it together with what Georg Stocking hath declared to Georg Stocking & Capt. Allyn & his declaration of his will in part contradicting doe judg that the will presented is of no value & therefore the court distribute the Estate as followeth to Samuel Stocking the Sum of one Hundred pownds, to Hannah Benton's children forty one pownds what they haue reced. in lands all ready to be accounted. in the sum afoarsayd to the wife of John richards forty one pownds to the wife of Sam^{ll}. Olcott Forty one pounds. & to John Stocking who hath liued with Georg Stocking his Grand Father for some yeares The remainder of the estate being Thirty Fower pounds we distribute to John Stocking & desire & appoynt Marshall Georg Graue & Thomas Bunce to make this distribution of the estate the sonns to haue the land as far as their diuission will reach when debts are payd If there be any overpluss it is to be diuided according to this rule & If the estate fall short it is to be born by all the legatees according to this diuission."[16]

The inventory of George Stocking's estate is document 97 in volume 2 of "Private Controversies." The statement is made in the heading of the inventory that he "daceased mayth 25 1683"[17]

The real estate consisted of

Home-lot, 3½ acres and housing,	£57–10–00
2½ acres of upland, north on John Bunce and south on Paul Peck,	25–00–00
9 acres and 1 rood at the Wolf Pound, 4 acres of which is claimed by Samuel Benton,	20–00–00
20 acres in the West Division,	1–10–00
5 acres in the South Meadow,	40–00–00
4 acres of swamp in the South Meadow,	32–00–00
1 acre in the Indian Ground, South Meadow,	10–00–00
½ acre in the South Meadow,	5–00–00

[16] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 78.

[17] It will be remembered that George Stocking was excused from military duty in May 1660, presumably because he was sixty years of age, and therefore born about 1600. If this inference is correct, he was about eighty-three years old at the time of his death.

2 acres in the South Meadow, at "peaquits heads", 20–00–00

These lands with the personal property consisting of household goods, horses, cattle and other property, made a total valuation of £257–09–03.

The decree of the Hartford County Court regarding the distribution of George Stocking's estate, which was made December 18, 1683, did not prove satisfactory to the heirs. The Court of Assistants, on May 27, 1684, accepted as a finality an agreement made by John Stocking, for himself and the heirs of his deceased father, John Richards and Samuel Olcott in behalf of their wives, and the children of Andrew Benton, Senior. By this agreement John Richards and Samuel Olcott were each to receive £42, the children of Andrew Benton a like sum, and John Stocking £31.[18]

CHILDREN OF GEORGE STOCKING

SAMUEL	b.	mar. May 27, 1652,	Bethiah Hopkins[19] and lived in Middletown, Conn.
HANNAH	"	"	Andrew Benton[20] of Hartford, Conn.
LYDIA	"	"	John Richards[21] of Hartford, Conn.
SARAH	"	"	Samuel Olcott[21] of Hartford, Conn.

[18] Colonial Records of New England, 1659-1701, Records of the Court of Assistants, p. 50, State Secretary's Office, Hartford, Conn.

[19] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 24.

[20] "Private Controversies", vol. 2, document 96, Conn. State Library, will of George Stocking; "Colonial Records of New England, 1659-1701", Records of the Court of Assistants, p. 50, final decree for settlement of George Stocking's estate, and Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", p. 284, entry of land belonging to Andrew Benton's children, inherited from George Stocking.

[21] "Private Controversies", vol. 2, document 96, Conn. State Library, will of George Stocking.

THE FAMILY OF

BARTHOLOMEW BARNARD

Bartholomew Barnard, perhaps son of the Boston carpenter of that name, was in Hartford, Connecticut, as early as 1647, as evidenced by the following entry on the Town Records:

"Bartellmaw Barnard was maryed To Sara Burchard The Twenty & Fiue of October one Thousand Six hundreth forty & Seuen"[1]

Sara Burchard was the daughter of Thomas Burchard who was then living in Hartford.

Barnard's public life began in 1651.

On February 4, 1650-'51, he was chosen Surveyor of highways for "the north side off the Riueritt";[2] February 6, 1654-'55, he was chosen one of the Constables for Hartford[3] and was sworn into office at the March session of the Particular Court.[4] He also held this office in 1665, 1676 and 1680.[5]

Among the records of "A Generall Court in Hartford, the 4th of Octobr, 1655" appears this entry:

"Bartho: Barnard, of Hartford, is fyned 5 s. for not returning the warrants seasonably for Deputyes, according to order."[6]

His name appears in the list of "Persons made free" at a session of the General Court which opened on May 15, 1656.[7]

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[1] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 23.

[2] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 94, 95.

[3] Ibid., p. 103.

[4] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 65.

[5] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 147, 174, 187.

[6] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 278.

[7] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 280, 281.

In the early days of the colony the inhabitants of the several towns, realizing the great danger from fire and consequent loss thereby, took stringent measures to protect themselves.

In 1635 the inhabitants of Hartford in public meeting assembled passed this vote:

"Itis ordrd that euery howse shall haue a Ladder or tre at Most wch shall reach [within] Two ffoote of the Topp of his howse vppon [the] forfetuer of five shillings A mounth for [each] mounth he shall want the same."[8]

As a result of this vote we find on page 110 of the volume of Town Votes a list of "Laders wanting" in 1655. Among the names is that of "Bartleme: Barnard".

As a further guard against fire the town annually chose two or more persons to act as Chimney viewers, and on February 9, 1645-'46 their duties were thus defined:

"it is ordred at the same meting that they shall vew the chimnies ffrom the end of September vnto the end of aprill onse euery three weekes. ffrom thense vntell September onse euery six weekes thaie shall giue notes of the time that thaie will go to ueiw & if the be not Cleand thaye shall forfit twellue pense ffor euery sutch defallt yt be the cheefe in habitense in euerie sutch howse & in case they doe neglect to vew as abovesaied thay shall [for]fit ffor uerie [ ] that it be proued [twe]llue pense"[9]

He was chosen Chimney viewer in February 1657-'58 and February 1660-'61, List maker and Rate maker in March 1660-'61, and one of the Townsmen in February 1661-'62, and February 1672-'73.[10]

As a protection from the Indians all the males of suitable age in each town were obliged to do guard duty and any unnecessary discharging of firearms was forbidden. The following entries are found among the records of a meeting of the Deputy Governor and Assistants held October 11, 1675:

"Mr. Barth: Barnard, for neglect of his standing upon the guard, is fined 2 s. 6 d."

. . . . . .

[8] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 1-2.

[9] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 79, 80.

[10] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 120, 121, 134, 135, 137, 168.

"Barth: Barnard, for his son's shooteing of his gun, is fyned fiue shillings."[11]

We take these entries from the first volume of Hartford Town Votes:

"A a Town Meeteing ffeb 28d 1689",

"The Town of Harttford voated that Mr Samll Willys Howse should bee ffortifyed on the south side the Riuer & allso Mr James Steeles Howse ffor the deffence off the Towne:

"The Towne allso Voted thatt Mr. John Ollcotts Howse Should bee fortyfyed for the North Side the Riuor, & Allso Mr Bartholomew Barnards Howse for the Said Vse.

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

"Co. John Allyn, Mr. Bartholmew Barnard, Ltt. Joseph Wadsworth and Capt. Caleb Stanly, were Chosen A Committee to Make up the fortyfycation abowte Mr. Bartholomew Barnards Howse."[12]

On page 506 of the "Book of Distributions", there were entered to him under date of June 10, 1651, twelve pieces of land purchased by him of Richard Webb.

The first piece was

"One psell on which a Meseuag or Tenymyentt Now Standeth with other outthouses yeardes & Gardens thare in being which he Bought of Richard webb Contaiñ by estimā Three Acres & two Roodes be it more or Less Abutting on high wayes on the East west & on the North & on John Maynordes Land on the south".

This includes all the land now bounded north and east by Main street, west by Trumbull street and extending south beyond the present Church street.

The other pieces were two acres and fourteen perches also fourteen and three-quarter acres and fifteen perches both in the North Meadow, two and one-half acres and twenty-eight perches in the Neck, eight acres in the Venturers' Field, six acres east of the Great River, two pieces in the Neck of three acres each, also two pieces in the North Meadow of four acres each, besides twenty-three and three-quarter acres and six perches of woodland and a piece on the east side of the Great River extending to the eastern bounds of the town, the acreage of which is not given.

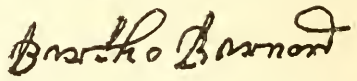
[11] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 375.

[12] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, p. 228.

On May 17, 1666, Bartholomew Barnard and William Pitkin purchased from Jacob Mygatt the latter's interest in a tract of land at Podunk in the towns of Hartford and Windsor, the owner of the remaining interest being Thomas Burnham.

The latter refusing to agree to a partition of the lands, Pitkin and Barnard entered a suit in the County Court and owing to appeals and new trials the subject occupied the attention of the authorities for more than ten years,[13] being finally decided in their favor.

From one of the papers in the case dated May 15, 1668, we take this autograph:



His name appears as one of the Jurors of the Particular and County Courts from November 3, 1657, to December 25, 1694, inclusive.[14]

At a session of the General Court held in May 1668 he was one of a committee appointed to establish the line between the plantations of Saybrook and Thirty-mile Island[15] (Haddam).

In the early days of the colonies there were very few of the inhabitants bred to the law and cases before the inferior courts and sometimes the General Court were argued by the parties themselves or by some other person as an act of friendship or for pay.

In the first volume of Saybrook Town Votes under date of "10 of Mch 75" is this entry:

"at a towne meeting it agreed and voted Wm Parson shall carry up the writing about Hamoneseck and procure if he can Bartholomew Barnard to be townes Attorney to exhibit our case in the Court and manage it to the best effect that he can:"

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[13] "Private Controversies", vol. 1, documents 29-47, Conn. State Library; Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, pp. 56, 58, 60, 71, 73; Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 65, 84-85, 101, and vol. 3, pp. 13, 14.

[14] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, pp. 107, 114, 134, 157, 161, 176, 189; Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, pp. 4, 9, 23, 66, 125, 146, 160; vol. 4, pp. 11, 45, 81, and vol. 5, pp. 4, 54, 78.

[15] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 82, 88.

For many years from the settlement of the colony it was the custom of the inhabitants of a town to pasture their cattle together. In order that each person might know his own property it was necessary that each animal should be marked and these marks were entered upon the Town Records.

Bartholomew Barnard's mark was

"the tope of the off Eare Cutt off and a peece Cutt out of the Backer side of the same Eare".[16]

Bartholomew Barnard and Sarah his wife were admitted to full communion in the Second Church of Christ (South) of Hartford, March 18, 1669-'70, and two days later their six children were baptized,[17] their names being entered on the record evidently in order of birth.

There is no record of Bartholomew Barnard's death but from the sexton's record of burials we learn that it occurred soon after February 8, 1697-8;[18] certainly before March 16 of the same year when the inventory of his estate was taken.

His wife Sarah was living when he made his will March 9, 1691. This same sexton's record shows the burial between January 14 and March 2, 1695-6, of "Goody Barnard"[18] and it is believed that this entry refers to Bartholomew's wife Sarah, especially as there is no trace of her after this date.

At a session of the Hartford County Court held April 15, 1698, there was presented the last will of Bartholomew Barnard deceased, together with an inventory of the estate and his son John qualified as executor.[19]

From the original on file the following copy is taken:

"In the name of God amen"

"I Barthlome Barnard of Hartford on conecticut being at present of Good understanding & memory & yet under some p^rsent exercise by reason of a fall & allso being aged doe count it my duty to set my house in order & to make dissposeall of that estate the Lord hath blessed me with by this my Last will & Testament herby renowncing all

[16] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, p. 337.

[17] History of Second Church of Christ in Hartford, pp. 291, 298.

[18] Record of Burials by William Goodwin, Town Sexton, in possession of Conn. Historical Society.

[19] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 6, p. 38, and reverse end, pp. 78, 79.

former wills & Testaments by me made by word or writing & declare this onely to be my Last will & Testament, & first I doe comitt my soule to God in Jesus Christ my merciful redeemer expecting saluation alone through his merits & perfect obedience, renowncing all confidence & hope in any other, but in Jesus christ alone & my body to a comly & christian Burial according to the discression of my executorˢ here after named, & for that estate the lord hath blessed me wᵗʰ all I Thus disspose my just & honest debts being in the first place fully contented & payd & my funerall Charges satisfyed

"I giue & bequeath to my wel beloued wife Sarah Barnard dureing her naturall Life my now dwelling house & Lands to be Improued by her & my son John & she to receiue the one halfe of the profits thereof for her subsistance with the one halfe of the benifit or proffit of my stock.

"I allso do grant & giue unto my beloued wife Thirty pownds of my estate to be at her disspose for euer & after my deceasse & my wiues decease to my son Joseph & my son John Barnard I giue all my houseing & Land to be diuided to them as followeth

"The house & Land Comonly Called Cloughs Lot I giue to my son Joseph & to my son John I giue in Leiw therof the house Barn & Home lot I now Liue upon & my neck pasture Lot that Lyes Between Thomas Clarkes & phillip Lewes which I doe Judg by reason of its Inconveniencies of fence & pulcks or swamps but equiuolent with Josephs house & Lott. which sayd houses & Lands as aboue diuided are to be to them their heirs & assigns for euer & for the remaynder of my Lands I giue them to my Two sons to be equally diuided between them & what my son Joseph receiued of me upon his marriage it is to be reckoned wᵗʰ his part of halfe my land, as part of it.

"I doe allso giue & bequeath to my son John all my Implements of husbandry as carts plowes Harowes Chayns yoakes colorˢ Traces &c. as allso Two oxen & Two Horses to make a Teame for him it is my will that my son Joseph & John should pay my debts equally

"I doe allso giue to my daughter Hannah my house & Home Lot Comonly called Kelorˢ Lott to be to her & her heirs foreuer & I doe giue to my sayd daughter Hanah forty pownds in curant pay of the country & after the decease of my wife all my moueable estate that shall remaine (except what I haue before giuen by this my wil. shall be equally diuided amongst my daughters.

"Farther it is my will that my sons Joseph & John shall pay to my daughters viz eli wadsworth sary steel & Mary Bunce the sum of Twenty pownds apeice to be payd the one halfe by Joseph Barnard & the other halfe by John Barnard to be payd to them within a Twelue Moneth after the deceasse of my wife & I doe nominate & appoynt my Son John to be sole executor of this my Last will & Testament

"In witnese where of I haue here unto set my hand this 9ᵗʰ day of March 1691.

Barthol Barnard"

"Barth: Barnard signed & declared
The aboue to be his Last will & Testament
In presence of vs
John Allyn
Aaron Cooke"

"Thomas olcott Aged 28 years or ther Aboute testifieth as foloweth that in the time of my father Barnards last sicknes that I se Elizibeth wodsworth the wiffe of Thomas wodworth goe to his bed side and I heard hir say to him I haue heard somthing of your will and I understand its Lik to go uery hard with John for ther is A grat many Dets for him to pay and I hear you haue giuen the cattell and the things to the girlls: and then my father Barnard Answered and said I thought of it be fore you spoke and it troubles me I wold haue my will taken and that pertickler altred and I will haue my Dets payed and then the Rest tak it Amoungst you and further I heard Elizebeth wodsworth speaking aboute the Corn and the meat and then my father barnard said I will not haue it taken from John and allso I heard him say that John shall haue this bed I now lie upone: Elizebeth wodsworth Aged forty six years or ther aboute testifieth to the Aboue writen
Sworne In Court Aprill the 15th. 1698/
Attest Will Whiting. Cler"

The inventory of his estate was taken March 16, 1697-8, and showed real estate amounting to £808–00–00
of which the house and home-lot were valued at 140–00–00
The personal property was valued at 162–09–10
making the total value of the estate £970–09–10.[20]

CHILDREN OF BARTHOLOMEW AND SARAH (BURCHARD) BARNARD

SARAH	b. Dec. 3, 1648;[21]			nothing further known about her.
ELIZABETH	" about 1652,[22]	bap. Mar. 20, 1669-'70;[26]		mar. before Nov. 14, 1677, Thomas Wadsworth[27] of Hartford, Conn.
JOSEPH	" about 1654,[23]	"	Mar. 20, 1669-'70;[26]	" between Apr. 23, 1685, and Oct., 1691, Lydia Howard[28] and lived in Hartford, Conn.

[20] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 6, reverse end, pp. 79-80.

[21] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 5.

[22] Affidavit following Bartholomew Barnard's will in Hartford, Conn., Probate Files.

[23] Diary of Rev. Daniel Wadsworth, printed, p. 54; Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 13, p. 76, and reverse end, p. 212, Joseph Barnard estate.

SARAH	b. about 1657,[24]	bap. Mar. 20, 1669-'70;[26]	mar. before Apr. 23, 1685, (James?) Steele.[29]	
MARY	"	"	Mar. 20, 1669-'70;[26]	" before Apr. 23, 1685, John Bunce[24] of Hartford, Conn.
JOHN	"	"	Mar. 20, 1669-'70;[26]	" before May 30, 1732, Sarah[30] and lived in Hartford, Conn.
HANNAH	" about 1662,[25]	"	Mar. 20, 1669-'70;[26]	" Nov. 13, 1695, Thomas Olcott[31] of Hartford, Conn.

[24] "Crimes and Misdemeanors", vol. 1, document 157, Conn. State Library.

[25] Historical Catalogue of First Church in Hartford, p. 263.

[26] History of Second Church of Christ in Hartford, p. 298.

[27] Ibid., p. 300, and Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, p. 166.

[28] "Crimes and Misdemeanors", vol. 1, documents 155-158; Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 5, p. 85; vol. 8, reverse end, p. 1. will of Henry Howard and Historical Catalogue of First Church in Hartford, p. 169.

[29] "Crimes and Misdemeanors", vol. 1, document 157, and History of Second Church in Hartford, p. 293.

[30] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 12, reverse end, p. 288, John Barnard estate.

[31] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 92.

THE FAMILY OF

THOMAS BIRCHARD or BURCHARD

"Thomas Burchard labouring man" aged "40 yeres Mary Burchard 38 Elizabeth Burchard 13 Marie Burchard 12 Sara Burchard 9 Suzan Burchard 8 Jo: Burchard 7" and "Ann Burchard 18 mo" were among the persons registered at the Port of London "XIX Sept: 1635" as embarking for New England on the "Truelove Jo: Gibbs" Master. The record states that "the Men have taken the oaths of Alleg: & Suprem."[1]

Thomas is supposed to be the "Thom: Bircher" who was made a freeman of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay on the 17th of the third month, 1637.[2] At this date he may have been a resident of Roxbury. The records of the First Church of Roxbury, in the handwriting of Rev. John Eliot the "Apostle to the Indians," gives his name in the list of church members, but without date.[3] His stay at Roxbury was short. On the records of a Particular Court held at Hartford sometime between April 11 and August 1, 1639, his name appears as one of the jurors,[4] showing that he had become a resident of Hartford in the Connecticut Colony.

At a town meeting held at Hartford, in September 1639, it was

"ordered that the way by brother birchall & osias good is put by only a foot way excepted & the driftway nullyfied & they shall mayntayne a hansome style at ech end of the hyways to the oxe pasture & they whose lots ly next hyway shall make & mainetayne the stiles"[5]

His name appears in the list "of such Inhabitants as haue Right in vndivded Lands."[6]

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[1] Hotten's Lists of Emigrants to America, p. 131.

[2] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 1, p. 373.

[3] Boston Record Commissioners' Report, vol. 6, p. 81.

[4] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 27, 29.

[5] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 5, 6.

[6] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 16, 17.

In 1640 the "vp Land of ye east side of ye greatte Riuer from potuncke Riuer To pewper potte River" was divided among the inhabitants and Thomas "Birchwood" received twenty-six acres as his share.[7]

On page 125 of the first volume of Hartford Land Records known as the "Book of Distributions" is entered a record of his lands under the date of February 1639, his homelot being described as,

"One parcell on which his dwellingehouse now Standeth with other outhouses yards or gardens therein beinge p^t^ whereof is lyinge in the west feild & containeth by Estimacon fiue acres (more or lesse) abuttinge on the high way leadinge from Seth Grants to the Centinell hill on the East & on Mr Allens land on the west & on Ozias Goodwing & on Rich Lords land on the North & on John Clerks land on the South".[8]

Beside this he had five and one-quarter acres, eleven perches, in the North Meadow, eight acres in the North Meadow, nine acres in the Cow Pasture and eight acres in the Little Ox Pasture.

Immediately following is the record of a house and lot of four acres which he bought of Zachariah Field, October 4, 1650, and which was recorded to him February 22, 1652. This would seem to indicate that he was still a resident of Hartford, and yet the record of "A Generall Courte of Election, the 16th of May, 1650" shows that he had been chosen a deputy to that Court, presumably from Saybrook, but was not present.[9]

He *was* a Deputy from Saybrook to the Court held May 15, 1651, and at that session he and his colleague John Clark "did ingage themselues" that the town of Saybrook should in the following October, pay its share of the money due from the Colony to George Fenwick.[10]

On page 1 of volume 1 of the Potopogue Proprietors records is a list dated January 4, 1648, of the proportions of ownership of the Eight Mile Meadow in Saybrook, Thomas Birchard owned an interest rated at £300 and John Birchard had a £100 interest; the whole being rated at £2000.

[7] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 39, 52.

[8] This description places the home-lot on the west side of what is now known as Trumbull street.

[9] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 207.

[10] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 218, 221.

Owing to the loss of the records of Saybrook Town Meetings prior to 1667, it is impossible to determine whether he was chosen to any office except as before stated.

It is surmised that his stay at Saybrook was short and that perhaps he was living in Guilford in 1653, as the records of that town show the marriage on the "12th of Aprill" in that year of "John Baldwin & Hanna Burchet both of Guilfford".[11]

On the 10th of May, 1653, he was a resident of Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard. At a town meeting held that day he was one of three men appointed by the town

"to divide to ye inhabitants out of all ye necks so much land as they in their best judgment shall see meet, and in those places yt they see most convenient."[12]

We learn from the town records that on June 8, 1653,

"Thomas Burchard ye elder is chosen town clerk".[13]

This is the earliest appointment to that office in the records now extant. All memoranda of events prior to 1731 were made in that year by the Town Clerk from original records which are now missing. The same year the town chose seven men who were to

"stand for a year to end all controversies, except member, life, and banishment, and to keep a meeting quarterly, namely four times in the year."[14]

This act really created a court of justice. In June, 1654, four men were chosen for this purpose of whom Thomas Burchard was one and he was reëlected in 1655 and 1656.[15]

In 1655 the town seemed to lack a set of weights and measures. January 22 of that year it was

"Voted by ye town yt Mr. Mayhew's half bushel and John Foulger's peck shall be ye standers for ye whole town."

"Also yt Thomas Burchards 4 pound weight and Edward Seales half pound weight shall [be] standers for ye town."[16]

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[11] Guilford, Conn., Town and Particular Court Records, vol. A, p. 122.
[12] Edgartown, Mass., Town Records, vol. 1, p. 131.
[13] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 121.
[14] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 122.
[15] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 119, 120, 121.
[16] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 127.

In volume 2, page 99, of Saybook Land Records is entered a deed dated the "last day of October 1656" whereby Thomas Birchard of "Martins Vinyard" for £30 sterling sold to William Pratt of Saybrook all the interest of himself or his son John in the upland and meadow in Potopouge quarter "being three hundred pounds accommodation" for which payment was to be made as follows: £4 in wheat at 4 shillings per bushel before the next March, £6 in beef and pork before October 20 next, "beife att two pence halfe penny the pound with Cask & salt and the porke at three pence the pound with cask and salt", £10 before October 20, 1658, and £10 before October 20, 1659, both payments to be made £3 in wheat, £7 in beef and pork.

November 1, 1656, he sold to John Clark, Senior, of Saybrook, two pieces of land in that town, one of nine acres in the planting field, and the other of six acres in the North Meadow which belonged to his son John.[17]

In 1669 there was entered on the Edgartown records a description of the lands owned by him on the island at that date, which consisted of a house-lot of eighteen acres, a pond lot of thirty acres, two lots at Cracketuxett, sixty-three acres at Meshakett, besides other lands and rights in the common fisheries.[18]

There is no record of the death of his wife Mary, but it is supposed that an entry on the church records of Roxbury, Mass., refers to her:

"1654/5"

"Moneth 1 day 10. Elizabeth Williams, daughter to Sam[l]. Williās buryed.
day 24. Goodwife Birchard."[19]

September 23, 1659, an entry was made on the records of the Suffolk County, Massachusetts, Probate Court relating to the granting of administration on the estate of Lewis Martin of Porley, Essex County, England, who died on the passage to New England. This entry seems to show that prior to that date Thomas Birchard had married the mother of John Andrews, merchant tailor, of the city of London, and that the latter was a

[17] From a copy of the original owned by Norman B. Clark of Appleton, Wis., through the courtesy of J. B. Bull of Centrebrook, Conn.

[18] Edgartown, Mass., Town Records, vol. 1, p. 74.

[19] Boston Record Commissioners' Report, vol. 6, p. 176.

cousin of Thomas Trapp, evidently a resident of Martha's Vineyard.[20]

In 1663, Birchard gave "to my cusen Thomas Trapp" certain lands on the island. "Katiren Burchard" also signed the deed.[21] She was probably Thomas Birchard's second wife, and the mother of John Andrews.

June 6, 1667, Birchard made another sale of land on the island and his wife "Katrin" signed the deed with him.[22] June 13, 1676, he deeded some of his land to his "kinsman Thomas Trapp" of Edgartown.[23]

May 2, 1682, "Thomas Birchard, of Edgartown upon Marthas Vineyard" sold to Joseph Norton of the same place all his interest "in the Neck, which is called Aquampache Neck, near Pohogonot."

The witnesses to the deed were John Haynes and John Birchard.[24]

From the foregoing it will be seen that Birchard was a resident of Edgartown in May, 1682.

The capture of New York by the Dutch in 1673 caused the downfall of the English government over that colony and its dependencies, among which was Martha's Vineyard.

A great many of the inhabitants of the island had become thoroughly dissatisfied with the power and arbitrary rule of Thomas Mayhew, the patentee and chief official of Martha's Vineyard.

A movement to overthrow Mayhew was inaugurated and evidently headed by Thomas Birchard who was the first to sign the notice to Mayhew stating that they intended to appeal to the General Court of Massachusetts Bay and asking him to resign his authority. The appeal to the Massachusetts government dated "Marthas Vineyard this 15th October 1673" was signed by "Tho: Birchard" and nineteen others, among whom was

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[20] Suffolk County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 3, p. 194; and Probate Files, no. 211.

[21] Edgartown, Mass., Town Records, vol. 1, p. 19.

[22] Dukes County, Mass., Deeds, vol. 1, p. 320.

[23] Edgartown, Mass., Town Records, vol. 1, p. 7.

[24] Dukes County, Mass., Deeds, vol. 4, p. 36.

"Thomas Trappe". The petitioners failed to obtain the desired relief and after a while the movement was crushed.[25]

A number of the participants were severely punished, but so far as is known, Thomas Birchard escaped punishment.

On page 154 of Wyman's Genealogies and Estates of Charlestown, Massachusetts, appears this entry:

"Deborah Burcham. Wife of Thomas of Martha's Vineyard; died May 10, 1680."

If this refers to Thomas Birchard of Edgartown, it shows that he was married three times.

Possibly because of her death or because of his differences with Thomas Mayhew, he left the island and removed to Norwich, Connecticut, where his son John had already located and become a prominent citizen.

March 24, 1682-3, as a resident of Norwich he conveyed to Nicholas Marson of Saybrook for £3 a one hundred pound right in the Saybrook Ox Pasture.[26]

May 9, 1683, when "late inhabitant upon Marthas Vineyard" he sold to Thomas Wollin of that island, one and one-half shares in the land lying near Sanchacantacket and Holmes Hole "which parcel of land Mr. Larson lately purchased of the Indians, for, and in behalf of, the Town".[27] At this date Birchard had been a resident of New England for forty-eight years and was about 88 years old.

A careful examination of the Norwich Records fails to disclose any entry of the date of his death.

"At a Countie Court held at New London the 16th of Septr 1684"

"There being presented vnto this Court a writing of M Thomas Birchard deceased as an addition to his will this Court approves the same & orders it to bee recorded And that the Execr or administrators to yt Estate paye those legacies according to the true meaning & intent of the deceased as is expressed in the sd writing vnder his hand and witnessed by Morgan Bowers & John Reed".

These witnesses were residents of Norwich and therefore his will must have been executed after his removal to that town.

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[25] History of Martha's Vineyard, Mass., by Charles E. Banks, vol. 1, pp. 154-171.

[26] Saybrook, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 237.

[27] Dukes County, Mass., Deeds, vol. 1, p. 209.

"At a Courte of Adiournmentt holden at New London Nouem[r] 25: 1684"

"John Birchard petitioning this Court and presenting Some Reasons against the probation of the Courte of the Adition to m[r] Thomas Birchards Adition to his Last Will allthough John Birchard had notice that the Codicell was to be presented & y[e] sayd John Birchard would nott Apeare in the Season to make his objections and this Courte Seeing it their Duty & could Doe no otherwise but Aproove the sayd Adition to Thomas Birchards will yet this Courte Grants Liberty to John Birchard to Apeare to the next Courte of Asistants in may nexts or Els that John Birchard pay the ten pound giuen by m[r] Thomas Birchard to some of his Children"[28]

At the burning of New London in 1781, by order of the traitor Benedict Arnold, the records of the wills were destroyed, and all information as to the purport of this will forever lost. An examination of the records of the Court of Assistants fails to disclose any appeal to that Court by John Birchard. It is therefore inferred that he thought best to pay the £10 given to the other children rather than to make any further contest.

September 19, 1693, John Birchard of Norwich, Connecticut, sold to Thomas Pease of Edgartown, all his interest in lands on Martha's Vineyard

"that did to me descend from my father Thomas Birchard deceased as by record or any other right he had·or now I have right unto".[29]

Among the early residents of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Hartford, Connecticut, was one Richard Webb. In 1650, he was one of the party which settled at Norwalk, Connecticut.[30] In October 1665 an inventory of his estate was taken and filed in the Fairfield Probate Court in the following month.[31] His widow Elizabeth died in Norwalk, January 24, 1680,[32] and an inventory of her estate was taken the next month. On March 14, 1681, the Probate Court took action thereon, and several persons claimed portions of the property.

"M[r] Bartholemu Bernard in the right of his wife and in the right of all that are realated to his father Burcher a righte to a proportion out of the estate of both the aboue deceasess by vertu of kindred:"

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[28] New London, Conn., County Court Records, unpaged, office of Clerk of Superior Court, Norwich, Conn.

[29] Dukes County, Mass., Deeds, vol. 1, p. 122.

[30] Norwalk, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 60.

[31] Fairfield, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 2, p. 8.

[32] Norwalk, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 59.

The court ordered that

"Bartholemue Barnard is to haue fiueteen pounds payd him at Conecticot in righte of his wife: and in right of his said father in lawes kindred:"[33]

Thus far all attempts to prove how Birchard and Webb were related have proved unavailing.

CHILDREN OF THOMAS AND MARY ( ) BIRCHARD

ELIZABETH	b. about 1622.[34]			
MARIA	" " 1623.[34]			
SARAH	" " 1626;[34]	mar. Oct. 25, 1647,	Bartholomew Barnard[35] of Hartford, Conn.	
SUSAN	" " 1627.[34]			
JO(HN)	" " 1628;[34]	" . July 22, 1653,	Christian Andrews.[36]	
ANN	" " Mar., 1634.[34]			
HANNAH	"	" April 12, 1653,	John Baldwin[37] of Guilford and Norwich, Conn.	

[33] Fairfield, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 1675-89, p. 86.

[34] Hotten's Lists of Emigrants to America, p. 131.

[35] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 23.

[36] Norwich, Conn., Vital Records, original vol. 1, p. 26.

[37] Guilford, Conn., Town and Particular Court Records, vol. A, p. 122.

THE FAMILY OF

JOSEPH COLLYER

Among the many finds made among the English records by that eminent antiquary Mr. Henry F. Waters, is that of the will of Joseph Collyer the elder, "citizen and grocer of London", which was entered in number 136, volume "Fairfax" of the records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

In his will made August 21, 1648, and proved September 28, 1649, was a bequest of £10 to the poor of St. Saviour's, Southwark "where I dwell."

Among the relatives mentioned by him were, brother Abel Collyer, sisters Judith Warner, Rhoda Dorton, Dorcas Slingsby, Rachel wife of Richard Parnell and "sister Mary Browninge in New England", wife Elizabeth, sons Joseph, Benjamin, Nathaniel, Abel and Samuel, daughter Elizabeth Savage and her two children Hannah and Elizabeth Savage, daughter-in-law Anna Harris and niece Elizabeth Bourne, child of sister Elizabeth Bourne.[1]

From the foregoing will it is conclusive that Joseph Collyer of London had in 1648, among his children, two sons named Joseph and Abel.

It is a significant fact that among the children of Joseph Collyer of Hartford, Connecticut, were two sons named Joseph and Abel and that the former also had a son Abel.

The similarity of names would seem to indicate that Joseph Collyer of Hartford was closely related to the London resident of that name.

James Savage, in his Genealogical Dictionary of New England, states that about 1662 a Joseph Collyer was in Salisbury, Massachusetts, whence he removed to Hartford, Connecticut.[2]

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[1] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 47, p. 281; vol. 50, p. 258, and Genealogical Gleanings in England, by Henry F. Waters, vol. 1, pp. 722, 1141.

[2] Vol. 1, p. 433.

While this is not impossible, a study of the Essex County Records fails to confirm his statement.

Nothing positive is known regarding Joseph Collyer or Collier[3] of Hartford, prior to February 23, 1668, when at the annual town meeting held on that date, he was chosen one of the Chimney-viewers.

He was also elected to this office at the annual meetings of 1675 and 1676.

The record of the meeting for December 1675 states that he was to act for "the North side" of the town.[4]

His name appears in a list of those who were "Propownded for freemen" at a session of the General Court held at Hartford in October 1671. At the following session of May 1672,

"The Court accepted those nominated for freemen, May and Octob[r] last"[5]

So far there has not been discovered any record of his marriage to his wife Elizabeth which must have taken place prior to 1668, as his eldest child, Joseph, was born about that year.[6]

On page 2 of the reverse end of the "Book of Distributions", the earliest volume of Hartford Land Records, is entered the birth on February 19, 1645, of ELIZABETH SAMFORD, daughter of Robert Samford.

A list of the children of Robert Sanford of Hartford is appended to the inventory of his estate taken June 19, 1676, which is preserved among the files of the Hartford Probate Court.

The name of the second child there given is "Eliz: Colyer".

Further, the record of the children of Joseph Phelps as entered on page 4 of the reverse end of the first volume of Simsbury, Connecticut, Land Records, states that they were the children of his wife

"Mary who was daughter to Joseph Collyer of hartford and so Marys mothers name was sanford or sister to Zechry sandford"

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[3] The name is also spelled in various other ways.

[4] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 157, 158, 173, 174, 175, 176.

[5] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 159, 163, 168, 177.

[6] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 5, reverse end, p. 119, list of children appended to the inventory of Joseph Collyer's estate.

On page 367 of the " Book of Distributions" is entered March 13, 1670-'71, a record of the lands of Joseph Collyer which were bought of William Williams, viz: seven acres in the "pine feild" and six and three-quarter acres and four perches on the east side of Little River.

In May, 1684, he purchased another tract of six acres in the "pine feild", and in June of the same year, fifteen acres in the "Midle ox pasture."

In the records of these lands, nothing is said about any buildings and the question at once arises as to where he resided; perhaps at this time he lived in the family of his father-in-law Robert Sanford.

The Connecticut Historical Society has a copy of the list of burials made by William Goodwin, the town sexton or gravedigger.

Under date of November 14, 1691, is entered the burial of "Goodman Collyer."

This is probably an error in the copy for November 17, 1691, as in the inventory of his estate, which was presented to the County Court, less than three weeks later, it is stated that he "deceassed November 16. 1691".[7]

December 2, 1691, an inventory of the estate of Joseph Collyer was presented to the Hartford County Court by his widow Elizabeth. It was shown to the Court, that the said Joseph, on his death bed, declared that he gave to his wife the life use of his whole estate. The Court appointed her administratrix and directed that at her death, the personal estate should be divided among the daughters and the real estate among his three sons equally.[8]

The inventory showed property amounting to £220–06–00, of which £121 was in real and £99–06 in personal estate.

Appended to the inventory is a list made December 2, 1691, giving the children and their ages as follows:

"Josep Collier ye Eldest son	23: yeares
mary Phelpes	22 years
Hannah	20: yeares
Sary Collier	18 yeares
Elizabeth: Collier	16 yeares

[7] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Joseph Collyer estate.

[8] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 5, pp. 33, 34.

Abell	14: yeares
John Collier	12 yeares
Abigaill Collier:	9 yeares
Susanah Collier	7 yeares:
Ann Collier	4 yeares & ½"[9]

Mrs. Elizabeth Collyer was admitted to full communion in the First Church of Hartford, August 14, 1692.[10]

The Goodwin burial record before referred to shows that "Widow Collyer" was buried December 31, 1695.

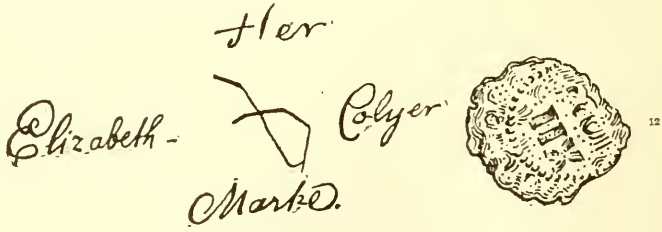
March 5, 1695-6, the last will and testament of Elizabeth Collyer together with an inventory of her estate was presented to the Hartford County Court. In her will which was dated December 27, 1695, she gave to her son Joseph 5 pounds in current country pay; to sons Abel and John certain personal estate, and to her daughter Mary Phelps of Simsbury, 40 shillings in country pay.

To the children living at home were given the provisions laid up for family use, and the rest of the estate was to be divided among all the children except the two eldest, Joseph and Mary.

She appointed as overseers

"the Hon[rd] Collon[ll] John Allyn, and my Loveing Brother Ensigne Zechariah Sandford and my Brother Robert Sandford".[11]

She signed the will with her mark instead of writing her name. Affixed to the will is a red wax seal bearing the imperfect impression of a pine tree shilling.



[12]

[9] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Joseph Collyer estate.

[10] Historical Catalogue of the First Church in Hartford, 1633-1885, p. 39.

[11] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 5, pp. 95, 99, and reverse end, p. 223.

[12] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Elizabeth Collyer estate. In the early days of the colonies the sons in the family were taught to write and cast accounts and the daughters were taught to cook, weave and spin, while the art of writing was not considered necessary for them.

The inventory of her estate taken February 21, 1695-6, showed nothing but personal property which amounted to £155–12–04.[13]

CHILDREN OF JOSEPH AND ELIZABETH (SANFORD) COLLYER

JOSEPH	b. about 1668;[14]	mar. Apr. 15, 1695, Sarah Forbes[15] and lived in Hartford, Conn.
MARY	" about 1669;[14]	" before Oct., 1689, Joseph Phelps[16] of Simsbury, Conn.
SARAH	" about 1673;[14]	" July 22, 1697, Joseph Pratt[17] of Hartford, Conn.
ELIZABETH	" about 1675[14]	living Nov., 1691.[14]
ABEL	" about 1677;[14]	buried Aug. 1, 1697, unm. An inventory of his estate dated Nov. 9, 1697, was presented to the Hartford County Court, Nov. 12 following and the property was ordered divided among his brothers and sisters.[18]
JOHN	" about 1679;[14]	mar. July 4 or 5, 1705, Elizabeth Humphrey.[19]
ABIGAIL	" about 1682;[14]	" Mar. 6, 1700-'01, Samuel Peck[20] of Hartford, Conn.
SUSANNAH	" about 1684;[14]	living Nov., 1691.[14]
ANN	" about 1687;[14]	mar. Jan. 30, 1706, Henry Bracy of Hartford, Conn.

JOHN COLLYER, sixth child and third son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Sanford) Collyer, was born about 1679, as at his father's death in November, 1691, his age is given as twelve years.[21]

He married July 4 or 5, 1705, ELIZABETH HUMPHREY, daughter of Ensign Samuel and Mary (Mills) Humphrey of Simsbury, Connecticut.[22]

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[13] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 5, reverse end, p. 224.

[14] Ibid., vol. 5, reverse end, p. 119, list of children appended to inventory of Joseph Collyer's estate.

[15] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 26.

[16] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. 4.

[17] Extracts from the Records of Colchester, Hartford, 1864, p. 102.

[18] William Goodwin Burial Record, and Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 6, p. 6, and reverse end, p. 30.

[19] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 26, and Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 1.

[20] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, fly leaf 2, and Historical Catalogue of the First Church in Hartford, p. 239.

[21] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 5, reverse end, p. 119.

[22] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 26, and Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 1.

At the annual town meeting held in Hartford, December 25, 1701, he was chosen one of the Chimney viewers "for the north side" and he was re-appointed to this office the following year. In December, 1713, he was chosen one of the Fence viewers for the North Meadow.[23]

John Collyer was admitted to full communion in the First Church of Hartford June 16, 1723. In the record of his admission it is stated that he died August 2, 1730.[24]

He made his will July 7, 1730, which was presented to the Probate Court January 12, 1730–'31.

In this will he referred to his occupation as that of a weaver and he gave to his wife Elizabeth, one-third of the personal estate, absolutely, and the life use of one-third of the real estate.

To his son John, he gave all his real estate subject to his wife's use, and to each of his four daughters, Elizabeth, Eunice, Thankful and Mary, £40, to be paid them at eighteen years of age or on the day of their marriage.[25]

An inventory of the estate was taken November 13, 1730, the total value being £622–06–02, of which £379 was in landed property.[26]

There is no record of the death of Elizabeth the widow of John Collyer nor of probate action on any estate that she may have left.

As before stated, her husband gave her the life use of one-third of his real estate, the whole of which was given to their son John.

Administration on the latter's estate was granted June 17, 1734. An inventory of his estate taken August 2, 1734, was filed in Court, April 13, 1736, the real estate mentioned in his inventory being the same as that in the inventory of his father's property.

An administration account on the estate of John Collyer, Junior, was filed in court, May 4, 1736, which showed a balance of personal estate for distribution in addition to the real estate.

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[23] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 261, 262, 264, 307, 308.

[24] Historical Catalogue of the First Church in Hartford, p. 46.

[25] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 11, pp. 35, 36, and reverse end, p. 89.

[26] Ibid., vol. 11, reverse end, pp. 90-91.

An agreement for the division of the real estate among his four sisters was made March 27, 1739, and filed in court the same day.[27] It was signed by Elizabeth Goodwin, Eunice Olcott, Thankful Collyer and Mary Collyer, also by William Goodwin and Joseph Olcott, husbands of the two eldest sisters.

The reason for the delay of nearly three years in the final settlement of her son's estate is not easy to understand, unless widow Elizabeth Collyer was living at the time of his death and the heirs preferred to wait until after her decease in order that they might take the real estate free from all encumbrance.

CHILDREN OF JOHN AND ELIZABETH (HUMPHREY) COLLYER

ELIZABETH	b. Apr. 14, 1706,[28]	bap. Apr. 28, 1706;[30]	mar. between July 7, 1730, and June 17, 1734, William Goodwin[34] of Hartford, Conn.
EUNICE	" Nov. 15, 1709,[29]	" Sept. 25, 1709;[31]	" Joseph Olcott[34] of Hartford, Conn.
JOHN	"		died before June 17, 1734, unm.[35]
THANKFUL	"	" May 26, 1717;[32]	unm., Mar. 27, 1739.[36]
MARY	"	" July 24, 1720;[33]	unm., Mar. 27, 1739.[36]

[27] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 12, pp. 6, 43, 44, and reverse end, p. 353; vol. 13, reverse end, p. 130, and Probate Files, John Collyer, Jr., estate.

[28] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 4, and "Rev. Dudley Woodbridge his Church Record at Simsbury in Conn., 1697-1710," p. 22.

[29] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 4.

[30] "Rev. Dudley Woodbridge his Church Record at Simsbury in Conn., 1697-1710," p. 22.

[31] Historical Catalogue of the First Church in Hartford, p. 185. It will be noticed that the date of birth of this child as entered on the Town Records is an impossibility; the correct date may have been Nov. 15, 1708, or Sept. 15, 1709. She was 80 years old at her death, Dec. 21, 1788.

[32] Historical Catalogue of the First Church in Hartford, p. 185.

[33] Ibid., p. 193.

[34] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 11, reverse end, p. 89, will of John Collyer, and vol. 12, p. 6, administration on estate of John Collyer, Jr.

[35] The date of his death is unknown. He was a legatee in the will of his father which was made July 7, 1730. Administration on his own estate was granted to his brother-in-law, William Goodwin, June 17, 1734. An administration account was filed in Court May 4, 1736. The first two items therein for money expended were:

"hartford June 1734"

"to Zebelun samerr for a Coffien 00:11–00

paied to mainard day for digin graue 00:11–06"

An agreement for the division of his real estate was signed by his married sisters, Elizabeth Goodwin and Eunice Olcott, with their husbands William Goodwin and Joseph Olcott, and by his unmarried sisters, Thankful and Mary. It was dated March 27, 1739, and filed in court the same day.

Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 11, reverse end, p. 89; vol. 12, pp. 6, 43, 44, and reverse end, p. 353; vol. 13, reverse end, p. 130, and Probate Files, John Collyer, Jr., estate.

[50] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 13, reverse end, p. 130.

THE FAMILY OF

ROBERT SANFORD

It is suspected that Robert Sanford of Hartford, Andrew and Thomas Sanford of Milford, and Zachary Sanford of Saybrook, Connecticut, were brothers from the fact that the names of Ezekiel and Sarah are found among the children of all four men, Hannah, Elizabeth and Mary appear in three families and Abigail, Samuel and Zachary in two.[1]

The earliest date that we have been able to find on the Hartford Records in connection with the name of ROBERT SANFORD is the birth of his daughter Elizabeth on February 19, 1645.[2]

Whether he was actually a resident of the town at that time it is now impossible to determine.

The birth of his son Ezekiel, March 13, 1647-8, is entered in chronological order with other births of that year on page 5 of the reverse end of the "Book of Distributions".

The inference is, therefore, that Robert Sanford was living in Hartford at this last date.

On page 490 of the "Book of Distributions" is an entry showing the sale by Richard Goodman to Sanford of three and three-quarter acres of land in the Soldiers' Field. There is no date to the entry but the return to the Colonial Secretary as given on page 60 of volume 2 of Colonial Land Records has the date "March 1650". On page 530 of the "Book of Distributions" is entered

> "Land in Hartford within the Jurisdection of Conecticutt belonging to Robert Sanford & his Heirs foreu^{r}."
>
> "Jan: 22. 1655. One pcell of land wth a messuage or tenem^{t} standing thereon wch he bought of Isaak Graves conteining by estimation one acre (more or less) abutting the high

[1] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, reverse end, p. 168; New Haven, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 1, part 2, pp. 82, 130, old pp. 78, 125; Milford, Conn., First Church Records, unpaged, and Saybrook, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 52.

[2] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 2.

way South, & upon the land of Beniamin Burr West & upon land wch was sometimes Stephen Harts North & upon land late Thomas Rootes East."

Following this are entered six pieces all bought of Isaac Graves.

There is no record of Sanford's admission as a freeman but his name appears in

"A list of the freemen of Hartford on the North the River, Taken Octob^r^ 13th, 1669."[3]

The name of his wife was ANN, but we know nothing as to the place and date of her birth or the names of her parents. It is stated in Savage's Genealogical Dictionary of New England that she was the daughter of Jeremy Adams. It is true that Adams in his will, which was made August 4, 1683, speaks of having given his grandson Zachary Sandford his "ox pasture Lot in the way to weathersfeild."[4]

On page 399 of the "Book of Distributions" is an affidavit dated June 3, 1681, wherein Giles Hamlin, James Steel and John Olcott certify that in May, 1680, when on their way to Wethersfield, Jeremy Adams called them aside and in their presence "by Turff & Twigg" delivered the possession of a parcel "of Land that Lyeth near Nathanael Sandford on the road that goeth to weathersfeild" to Zachary Sanford "on account of Sarah Willett".

On page 195 of volume 1 of the Hartford Land Records is entered a deed by which Zechariah Sanford and others in July 1699 conveyed land which had belonged to "Their father in Law" Nathaniel Willett. It is a well-known fact that Willett married a daughter of Jeremy Adams. If Zachary Sanford had actually been a grandchild of Adams it seems very strange that the latter should have given property to Zachary and have ignored his mother if she was Adams's daughter. These facts would seem to prove that Zachary Sanford was given this land by Jeremy Adams because he had married the latter's granddaughter and not because he personally was descended from Adams.

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[3] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 518.

[4] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, reverse end, p. 127.

At a town meeting held "on ye 22 of febwry 1651" Sanford was chosen one of the "Chimny lookers".[5] He was chosen one of the Leather sealers in 1658, '59, '60, '62, '66, '67, '68, '71 and '72, a Fence viewer in 1662, and except in 1672 annually until 1674 inclusive.[6]

On examining the Town Votes we find that

"Robert Samford his year ffor tending the meetting hows begun the 20th of August 1655, he is to hau eight pownds a year wages off the town for that seruic".[7]

In December 1676 the townsmen agreed with William Goodwin to perform the same duties for which he was to receive seven pounds per year

"he is allso to dig graues & warn pub: meetings as the Townsemen shall appoynt him for which he is to be payd as Robt: Sandford was".[8]

"At a Towne Meeting Feb: 3^d. 1668."....

. . . . . .

"The same Towne Meeting the Towne By there Vote chose Robt: Sandford, & Andrew Benton, to be Colecto^rs for the gathering of the ministers rate this yeare ensueing"[9]

The records of the General Assembly show that in October 1672 there were granted to

"Robart Sandford eighty acres of land, prouided he take it where it may not prejudice any former grant."[10]

There is nothing in the record to show why this grant was made.

Sandford's last appointment as Fence viewer was in December 1674.[11] Sometime between this date and June 19, 1676, he "departed this life", as an inventory of his estate was taken on the latter date.[12]

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[5] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, p. 98.

[6] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 123, 129, 130, 134, 140, 141, 151, 154, 158, 166, 168; 138, 142, 147, 150, 151, 154, 158, 160, 162, 166, 169, 171.

[7] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 112.

[8] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 175.

[9] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 156, 157.

[10] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 183, 189.

[11] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, p. 171.

[12] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, reverse end, p. 166.

September 7, 1676, administration on his estate was granted to his widow,[13] and at a session of the Court held on the 6th of December following there was presented the following unsigned document which was attested as the last will of Robert Sanford:[14]

"In the name of God Amen I Robt: Sanford Senr beeing weak in body but at this present of Competent memory and understanding do make and Ordein this my Last will and Testament as followeth

"Imp^{rs} I bequeath my Soule into the hands of God my Creator hopeing for Saluation only through Jesus Christ and my body I giue after my deceass to Comely Christian buriall hopeing for the blessed ressurection there of at the last day and my funerall Charges beeing defrayed and my Just debts beeing paid I dispose of the rest of my worldly goods as followeth

"Item the house Ortyard and Lott that was Goodman Phillipps I giue to my Son Zachariah Sanford and his heires foreuer beeing about two acres of Land. that is the Ortyard next Phillpps house and the Lott next that Ortyard to bee his after his mothers Deceass. hee paying Such Legacies out of it as I shall appoint

"Item my other dwelling house in Hartford with the Lott next it and Harts hill and the pasture bought of Kellsey and the barn and Ortyard next Gherrard Spikes lot and the Land adjoyning to Samuell Olcotts and Specks lotts I giue after my wiues deceass to my Son Robt Sanford and his heires for euer hee paying Such Legacies out of it as I shall appoint

"Item to my Daughter Hannah I giue the neck pasture which is next Caleb Stanleys land after her mothers deceass.

"Item to my Daughter Sarah I giue a Great Kettle a Cowe and a bed after my wiues deceass

"Item to my Daughter Hannah I giue the best Kettle and my pistoll after my wiues deceass and to Abigail my daughter the bell skellett

"Item to Robert Sanford the Land in Soldiers feild beeing about 2 acres and an half and the Land ouer the Great Riuer in Mr Crowes meadow.

"Item my wood Lands I would haue them Ly in Common for the use of both my Sonns Robert and Zacharyah

"Item dureing my wiues life time I would haue my wife to haue the whole of my estate as now it is myne and Robt: to Liue with her and attend her and to haue my team to help her"

"Mr Wm Pitkin & Sarg^{t}. Tho: Spencer did declare upon oath that what is aboue written they did hear Robt. Sandford declare as his last will & Testament so Far as is writen & that he was to there Judgm^{ts}. of competent vnderstanding when he so declared."[15]

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[13] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, pp. 153, 155.

[14] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 159.

[15] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Robert Sanford estate.

"The Court haueing Considered a writeing presented & attested as the last will of Rob[t] Sandford Sen[r]. Deceassed & findeing it short of the full disspose of his whole Estate doe allowe & approue of the Sayd writeing so far as it goeth", and in addition ordered that the widow should have £60 absolutely and that after her death, Robert the youngest son, should pay to his brother Ezekiel £30 as his portion; Zachary was to be given £25 additional and the five daughters were to receive £21 each. The land adjoining "Colio[r]s" houselot was to be part of his wife's portion. It was decreed that Zachary should have as a part of his share, lands at the upper end of the North Meadow and in Windsor.[16]

The inventory of Robert Sanford's estate taken June 19, 1676, showed real estate valued at £260–14–00
and personal property amounting to 153–11–06
making a total of £414–05–06

Immediately following the inventory are entered the names of the children as follows:

"Zachary Sandford the eldest son—
Eliz: Colyer—
Ezekell: Sandford
Mary: Camp—
Sarah Sandford
Rob[t] Sandford
Hana Sandford
Abigall Sandford"[17]

December 29, 1676, the Selectmen of Hartford bound out John Arnold as an apprentice to Ann Sandford for fifteen years and three months until he should be twenty-one years old.

As an example of the old-time custom relating to apprentices we quote from this document:

"Ann Sandford did bind herselfe her heirs executo[r]s or Administrato[r]s, to teach him or cause him to be taught to read the Bible & to wright, & to mayntayn him the whole Tearme w[th] all necessaries & at the end thereof to set him free & to giue him Two good suits of Apparell both linin & wollen one for Sabboth dayes, & one for working dayes & to giue him fiue pownds in currant country pay".[18]

There is no record of the death of widow Ann Sanford.

July 12, 1682, she made her will, which was presented to the County Court on the 7th of the following September. In it she

[16] Hartford, Conn., County Records, vol. 3, p. 159.

[17] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Robert Sanford estate.

[18] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, p. 175.

stated that her husband's estate was settled December 6, 1676, and ordered her son Robert to pay his brothers Zachary and "Ezekell" their full portions; made mention of "my daughters that are marryed" without giving their names and gave household furniture, etc., to her daughters Hannah and Abigail and stated that they "have been Tender of me all along & abod wth me Hither to". Of Robert she said, "my Son Robert hath also aboad with me & carryed on my occasions & prouided for me this seven yeares past I doe leaue him the remaynder of my estate with him & bequeath it to him to enable him to pay my Just debts"[19]

Owing to the fact that there was no inventory presented to the Court we are unable to learn the value of her estate.

CHILDREN OF ROBERT AND ANN ( ) SANFORD

ZACHARY[20]	b.	mar. before Nov. 1681, Sarah Willett[24] and lived in Hartford, Conn.
ELIZABETH[20]	" Feb. 19, 1645;[21]	" before 1668, Joseph Collyer[25] of Hartford, Conn.
EZEKIEL[20]	" Mar. 13, 1647;[22]	lived perhaps at Southampton, L. I.[26]
MARY[20]	"	mar. before June, 1676, John Camp[27] of Hartford, Conn.
SARAH[20]	"	unm., June, 1676.[20]
ROBERT[20]	" about 1656;[23]	died June 19, 1728, aged 72.[23]
HANNAH[20]	"	unm., June, 1676.[20]
ABIGAIL[20]	"	unm., June, 1676.[20]

[19] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, pp. 57, 58, and reverse end, p. 97.

[20] Ibid., vol. 3, reverse end, p. 168, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Robert Sanford inventory.

[21] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 2.

[22] Ibid., reverse end, p. 5.

[23] Gravestone in Centre Church graveyard, Hartford, Conn.

[24] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", p. 399, and reverse end, p. 19.

[25] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. 4, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 5, p. 223.

[26] Howell's History of Southampton, L. I., second edition, pp. 371-372.

[27] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Robert Sanford estate, list of children appended to inventory; Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 11, births of children of John Camp; Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 8, reverse end, p. 70, will of John Camp, and vol. 12, reverse end, p. 86, will of Mary Camp.

THE FAMILY OF

MICHAEL HUMPHREY

Thus far nothing has been discovered regarding the residence in America of MICHAEL HUMPHREY prior to 1643. March 8 of that year he purchased of Robert Hayward at Windsor, Connecticut, four acres more or less of land which was bounded north on the rivulet, south on the highway, east on land of John Banks and west on the home-lot of William Buell.[1]

October 14, 1647, he married PRISCILLA GRANT[2] daughter of Mathew Grant of Windsor.

In the "Humphreys Family in America" is a fac-simile of a letter preserved by one of Michael Humphrey's descendants, and which is said to have been addressed to Michael, although the superscription has not been reproduced. The letter is dated "Lyme 24: January 1648" and is signed "Samuell Humphery" and "R(?)osana Humphery." It begins "My Endeared Sunne". It is largely of a religious character but ends as follows:

"my deare the last Let^{r} I wrote Vnto yor was of ye 18: of May 1648 p ffrind which: If god was pleased to giue yor lif Caume safe to yor hand in it I aduised yo^{u} of r^{e} Rec of yo^{r}s: wrigten 6 moneths befoare p whhome I did take notice of yor Marriage and alsoe y^{t} yor war gon further"[3]

Michael Humphrey does not seem to have been interested in the right to vote for the Colonial officials, as he was not made a freeman until May 1657,[4] when he was probably more than thirty years of age.

He was evidently one who did not hesitate to declare his opinion of others, as we find in the records of the Particular Court that in December 1659 George Phillips brought suit against him "for defameing him by many iniurious Expressions"[5]

[1] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, original vol. 1, folio 106.
[2] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 57.
[3] The Humphreys Family in America, pp. 98, 99 and illustrations.
[4] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 297.
[5] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 129.

In March 1660 he was chosen one of the Fence viewers[6] and this seems to have been the only office held by him during his residence in Windsor.

The following entries appear among the records of the General Assembly opened at Hartford, March 10, 1663:

"The Church of Christ at Winsor complaynes of James Enoe and Michaell Humphrey, for seuerall things contayned in a paper presented to the Court. Mr. Clarke, in behalf of the Church complaynes of James Enoe and Michaell Humphrey for a misdameanor, in offering violence to an establisht law of this Colony. Mr. Clark withdrawes this charge."

. . . . . .

"This Court hauing seriously considered the case respecting James Ennoe and Michaell Humphrey, doe declare such practises to be offensiue, and may proue prejudiciall to the wellfare of this Collony, and this Court expects they will readily come to the acknowledgment of their error in the paper by them presented to the Church, wherupon the Court respitts and remitts the sensure due for their offence, prouided answerable reformation doth followe, expecting that their lenity therein will winne upon the spiritts of those concerned in this case.

"And this Court doth approue of the pious and prudent care of Windsor, in seeking out for a supply and help in the ministry, Mr. Warham growing ancient; and do order all persons in the sayd plantation to allow their proportion towards the competent maintenance of such a supply in the ministry.

"And the Court desires a friendly correspondency may be maintayned at Windsor, as if this trouble had neuer been; this Court declaring their readyness to mayntayne all the just priuiledges of all the members of this Corporation."[7]

A careful reading of these two entries leads one to suspect that the "violence to an establisht law of this Colony" was their refusal to pay the rate or tax laid on them for the support of the minister, probably because of some difference in matters of religion.

A petition preserved among the treasures of the Connecticut State Library reads thus:

"To the Honrd: the Gen^{ll}: Assembley of the Corporation of Connecticott in New England"

"The Humble Address and Petition of Sundry persons of and belonging to the same Corporation"

"Sheweth. That whereas wee whose names are subscribed, Beeing Proffessors of the Protestant Christian Relidgion, Members of the Church

[6] Windsor, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, folio 48.

[7] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 416, 420.

of England, And Subiects to our soueraigne Lord Charles the Second by Gods Grace, King of England etc: And vnder those Sacred tyes mentioned and conteined in our couenant Sealed with our Baptism. Haueing seriously pondred our past and present want of those Ordinances wch to us and our Children as members of Christs uissible Church ought to bee administered. Which wee Apprehend to bee to the Dishonour of God and the Obstruction of our owne and our Childrens good (Contrary to the Pious will of our Lord the King in his maine purpose in Settling these Plantations As by the Charter and His Maties: Letter to the Bay June 20th 1662 and other wayes is most euidently manifest.) to our great greife. The Sence of our Duty towards God, The relation wee stand in to our Mother the Church. our gratefull acceptance of His Maties: Royall fauor, The edification of our owne and our Childrens Soules and many other good, Christian and profitable ends, (as allso at a Late session of this Honrd Assembley haueing receiued a fauorable incouragement from the Worll: Dep: Gor:) Hereunto moueing us. Wee are bold by this our Address to declare our Agreiueance, and to Petition for a redress of the Same.

"Our Aggreuieance is that wee and ours are not under the Due care of an Orthodox Ministry that will in a due manner administer to us those ordinances that wee stand capeable of, as the Baptizeing of our Children, our beeing admitted (as wee according to Christs order may bee found meete) to the Lords table. And a carefull watch ouer us in our wayes and suteable dealing with us as wee do well or ill. Withall whatsoeuer benifitts and Aduantages belong to us as members of Christs uissible Church, which ought to bee dispenced by the officers of the Same. of wch wee beeing Destitute

"Wee humbly Request. That this Honrd: Court would take into Serious Consideration our present State in this respect that wee are thus as sheep scattered haueing no shepheard, and compare it with what wee conceiue you cannot but know both God and our King would haue it different from what it now is And take Some Speedy and effectuall Course for redress herein. And put us in a full and free capasity of inioying those forementioned Aduantages which to us as members of Christs uissible Church doe of right bellong. By Establishing som wholesome Law in this Corporation by uertue whereof wee may both claime and receiue of Such Officers as are, or shall bee by Law Set ouer us in the Church or churches where wee haue our abode or residence those forementioned priuilidges and aduantages.

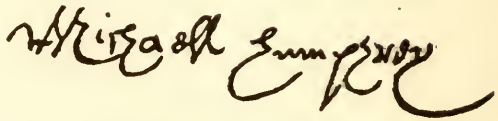
"ffurthermore wee humbly request that for the future no Law in this corporation may bee of any force to make us pay or contribute to the maintaineance of any Minister or officer in the Church that will neglect or refuse to Baptize our Children, and to take care of us as of Such members of the Church as are under his or their Charge and care.

"Thus in hopes that yor carefull and Speedy consideration and Ishue hereof will bee answerable to the weight of the matter and our nessesity. and that Matters of less moment may bee Omitted till this bee I shued

wee waite for a good answer And for this Honrd: Court wee shall euer pray &c::/."

"October 17th: 1664"

"W^{m}: Pitkin



John Stedman
James Enno
Robart Reeue
John Moses
Jonas Westover"[8]

The following action was taken in reply to this request:

"This Court vnderstanding by a writing presented to them from seuerall persons of this Colony, that they are agrieved that they are not interteined in church fellowship; This Court haueing duely considered the same, desireing that the rules of Christ may be attended, doe commend it to the ministers and churches in this Colony to consider whither it be not their duty to enterteine all such persons, whoe are of an honest and godly conuersation, haueing a competency of knowledg in the principles of religion, and shall desire to joyne wth them in church fellowship, by an explicitt couenant, and that they haue their children baptized, and that all the children of the church be accepted and acco^{td} reall members of the church, and that the church exercise a due christian care and watch ouer them; and that when they are growne up, being examined by the officer in the presence of the church, it appeares, in the judgment of charity, they are duely qualifyed to perticipate in that great ordinance of the Lords Supper, by theire being able to examine themselues and discerne the Lords body, such persons be admitted to full cōunion.

"The Court desires y^{t} the seuerall officers of ye respectiue churches, would be pleased to consider whither it be not the duty of the Court to order the churches to practice according to the premises, if they doe not practice wthout such an order.

"If any dissent from the contents of this writing they are desired to help the Court wth such light as is wth them, the next Session of this Assembly."[9]

Nothing definite seems to have been accomplished until May 1669, when

"This Court haueing seriously considered the great divisions that arise amongst us about matters of Church Gouerment, for the honor of God,

[8] "Ecclesiastical", vol. 1, document 10 b, Conn. State Library.

[9] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 437, 438.

wellfare of the churches and preseruation of the publique peace so greatly hazarded, doe declare that whereas the Congregationall Churches in these partes for the generall of their profession and practice haue hitherto been approued, we can doe no less than still approue and countenance the same to be wthout disturbance vntill better light in an orderly way doth appeare; but yet forasmuch as sundry persons of worth for prudence and piety amongst us are otherwise persuaded (whose wellfare and peaceable sattisfaction we desire to accomadate,) This Court doth declare that all such persons being allso approued according to lawe as orthodox and sownd in the fundamentalls of Christian religion may haue allowance of their perwasion and profession in church wayes or assemblies wthout disturbance."[10]

In 1665 England declared war against Holland. In consequence the New England colonies feared an attack from the Dutch forces and measures were taken for their defence.

A session of the General Assembly was called by the Governor in July 1665. Among the acts passed was one appointing the "Gouerno^{r} and Magestrates for ye Riuer" and other persons for the rest of the colony "to order and appoint how and in what way the order established for aid and reliefe in such cases may be effectually attended."[11]

Another committee for the same purpose was appointed in July 1666. Evidently one of their orders was to raise a body of mounted troops or "Dragooneers."[12]

On folio 7 of the second volume of Windsor Town Votes is a list of

"Those of the Dragones that haue reseiued pouches of Thomas Deble which he got made and is to be payed by ye towne."

Among the names is that of "michal Houmfrys one".

It will be recalled that the oldest record of any land entered to him at Windsor was March 8, 1643. Following this are entries showing that he bought of Jeffrey Baker three acres on the west side of the street where his house stood, bounded south on land of David Wilton, north, east and west by highways, and of Richard Saxton, land over the "Great River" being ten rods wide and three miles long, bounded north on land of Mathew Grant and south on land of Samuel Rockwell.

[10] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 104, 109.

[11] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 19, 21.

[12] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 43, 44, 81.

From his father-in-law, Mathew Grant, he received four and one-quarter acres of swamp woodland.

There is no date to the record of these three pieces, but it is surmised that he obtained them somewhat later than the Hayward lot, bought March 8, 1643.

January 4, 1659, there was entered to him a tract of five and one-quarter acres in the Pound Close, bought of David Wilton.

March 23, 1659-'60, he took up on the east side of the Tunxis River at "Masacow", fifty acres of meadow land on account of losses "that he with others that were his partners did sustaine in former years by indians in firing their candlewood."

October 13, 1662, he bought of David Williams six acres more or less bounded north on the home-lot of Jacob Gibbs.[13]

The record of his meadow land at "Masaco" is given more at large on page 190 of the "Red Book," being volume 1 of Simsbury Land Records:

"Michall Humphry of Windsor on Connecticutt Who with Some others Now diuers years past. were encoraged by the Court to set about: making of tarr. out of Candle Wood. as likley to redound to a publique Benefite. as well as their owne privat that Should put it in practice. and after they had transseneded in their worke to the laying out many pounds in Labour and cost that went with it: some Ill disposed Indians fireing their candle wood and being pursued to make satisfaction; and haveing no better way in their hands resigened vp all their Indian right. in the land. within the Limmits of Masaco. and after the Court, had taken the matter into consideration Did alow the sd michall. free liberty to tak up fiftie Accres of medow Land for his part within the afforesd Masaco. Where it might be beneficeall to him, and now have set out within the afforesd Masaco. Where it might be beneficiall to him, and now have set out Vpon the bounding of it & begins at the lower end of a Slipp of meadow that lyes next below that called mantoes meadow."

Then follows the description of the land laid out to him under this grant by Mathew Grant on March 23, 1659-'60.

January 26, 1666, Henry Rose entered a caveat on the Windsor Records forbidding the sale by Humphrey of any of his lands because of debts owing by him to Rose.[14]

Documents 48 to 58 inclusive in volume 1, "Private Controversies," Connecticut State Library, are the original bills of

[13] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, original vol. 1, folio 106.

[14] Ibid., original vol. 1, folio 105.

lading, accounts and other papers regarding merchandise shipped by Samuel Humphrey of St. Malo in France to his brother Michael Humphrey in Connecticut during April and May 1662, to be sold on Samuel's account. One of the papers is an assignment by Samuel Humphrey of part of his interest in the enterprise to Henry Rose also of St. Malo.

The records of the Particular Court show that in March 1666-'67 Rose brought suit against Michael Humphrey for the value of the goods shipped to him, amounting to £405–06–06. In this case the jury found for the plaintiff £155–09–00 and costs of court.[15]

In May 1668 Rose brought another suit against Humphrey on account of the goods "he hath rece'd By order from his Brother M[r] Sam[ll] Humphreys"[16]

On account of these claims against him Humphrey on June 18 or 19, 1668, made over to Henry Rose his house and lands, "being cast in suit at law to pay the debt."

The first piece was the dwelling house and eight and one-quarter acres bounded north, east and west by highways, south by land of Nicholas Buckland; other pieces were six acres on the other side of the west highway, bounded north on Jacob Gibbs's home-lot, east and west on highway, south on the home-lot of Nicholas Wilton, four and one-quarter acres of swamp, sixty acres on the east side of the Great River, ten rods wide and three miles long and fifty acres at Massaco near Mantoe's meadow.[17]

On page 288 of the manuscript first volume of the Colonial Records of Connecticut, is entered a document dated June 20, 1668, whereby "Henry Rose of Lyme in the county of Dorsett Merchant" released to "Michael Humpheries" of Windsor all claim which he had against him on his own account or on account of "Samuel Humpheries of Saint Maloes. (Broth: to the sayd Michael)", by reason of business transactions between them.

April 14, 1697, John Humphreys, Samuel Humphreys, Richard Burnham and wife Sarah, Joseph Bull and wife Hannah, John

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[15] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 3, pp. 57, 60.

[16] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 77.

[17] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, original vol. 1, folio 222, and Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", p. 190.

Shipman and wife Martha, John Lewis and wife Mary, Benjamin Graham and wife Abigail, heirs of Michael Humphrey deceased, brought suit against Joseph Wells and Benjamin Newberry of Windsor, evidently to recover some of the land transferred to Henry Rose and sold by Benjamin Newberry as attorney for Rose. The case was appealed to the May term of the Court of Assistants.[18]

The records of the latter court show that in May 1697 Samuel Humphrey and Joseph Bull in right of his wife, tendered £156–18–04 to answer an agreement made in court between Henry Rose of Lyme, Dorset County, England, and Michael Humphrey, late of Simsbury, deceased, for the payment of £235–07–00 to said Rose by Michael.[19] Proclamation of the tender was made three times by the court, which is supposed to have closed the case.

The transfer in June 1668 by Michael Humphrey to Rose of his lands at Windsor and Massaco left him without a home.

About this time there were laid out to him at the latter place, twenty acres "between the boggy meadow and swamp about one mile above Thomas Mascal's house that lies opposite Hop Brook."[20]

Among the records of the General Assembly for October 1668 we find this entry:

"This Court doth desire that Massacoe, which hitherto hath been an appendix to the towne of Windsor, may be improued for the makeing of a plantation, & Capt[n] Benj: Newbery, Deacon John Moore & Mr. Symon Woolcott the present comittee for the grant of those lands are desired and impowered by the Courte to farther the planting of the same, and to make such just orders as they shall judge requisitt for the well ordering of the sayd Plantation, so they be not repugnant to the publique orders of this Colony."[21]

"At a Court of Election held at Hartford, May 13th, 1669."

"This Court orders that the select men and constables in the seuerall plantations shall take a list of all the freemen in theire respectiue plantations where they dwell, and send it up under their hands fayrely written by their deputies to the Gen[ll] Court in October next, and the Secret[y] is

[18] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, pp. 149, 151-152.

[19] Connecticut Colonial Records, New England, 1659-1701, reverse end, pp. 68, 71.

[20] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, original vol. 1, folio 105.

[21] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 93, 97.

to record the same in a booke for that purpose, that soe when there may be any occasion or difficulty about that matter, whoe are freemen, it may be the easier determined."[22]

October 11, 1669, John Moore, Mathew Grant, Samuel Marshall and Return Strong had

"A list taken of all the freemen that liue within the limits of Windsor, in reference to the order of the Generall Court, May 13: '69, requiring ye same."

Following the Windsor names, one hundred and thirteen in number, is this heading:

"These are stated inhabitants of Masaco, and haue ben free men for Windsor."

Then follow thirteen names, the fifth of which is "Micall Houmfery".

"This is a true list as neere as we could com at and be informed:"[23]

In May 1670 the General Court established the bounds of the plantation and changed the name to Simsbury.[24]

In the following October, Michael Humphrey was a Deputy to the General Court.[25]

In 1675 and '76 the inhabitants of many of the towns of the Connecticut Colony were in great danger because of trouble with the Indians.

At a session of the Council held March 3, 1675-6, the following action was taken:

"The insolencies of the heathen and their rage encreasing. against the English, and the spoyle that they haue made in sundry places, hath moved us to order that forthwith the people of Simsbury doe remoue themselues and what estate they can remoue, to some of the neighbouring plantations for their safety and securety."[26]

In accordance with this order the inhabitants of the town are said to have removed very hastily to Windsor, bearing such of their household goods as they were able to take with them. They did not act any too soon as the Indians burnt the town on

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[22] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 104, 112.
[23] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 519, 520.
[24] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 126, 127.
[25] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 136.
[26] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 412.

Sunday the 26th of the same month. The following day the Governor and Council ordered notice of the burning to be sent to Farmington, and warned that town to be on its guard.[27]

When the trouble subsided the settlers returned and commenced the town anew.

The following is copied from document 169 in volume 1 of "Towns and Lands" in the Connecticut State Library:

"To the Honoured Generall Assembly now
sitting in Hartford."

"Honoured ffathers.

Wee whose names are underwritten the present Inhabitants of Simsberry haveing bin formerly burthened by the inequallity of levying of rates (as the case is circumstanced with us) and now through the late afflictive dispensation of Gods providence haveing bin greater sufferers than other plantations in this collony & thereby allsoe in some measure at the present incapacitated to rayse rates in the common way that is stated in the country law: in this our infant state do humbly request & desire of this Honoured Assembly that they would be pleased to graunt us at the present that privilidge (which wee understand hath bin formerly & of late graunted to other plantations in their beginnings) viz: that all rates that shall be raysed for the defraying of publicke charges may be levyed onely upon lands, the farther grounds & reasons of this our request wee have desired Samuell Willcockson & Benajah Holcomb to represent to your Honours as our agents in this case: who are your very

May: 14th: 77 Humble Servants."

The signers were Samuel Stone, Michael Humphrey, John Humphrey and seven others.

In accordance with this petition we find that

"This Court upon the motion of the inhabitants of Simsbury, doe grant that the people of Simsbury shall haue liberty to rayse their rates for the ministry and towne charges onely upon lands for the three next yeares ensueing this date, any law to the contrary notwithstanding; and in regard of the great loss that that town hath received in the late warr, the Court haue seen cause to remitt to the inhabitants of Simsbury that make there constant abode there, their country rates for the three next yeares ensueing, both for persons, land and cattell; but those that doe not so inhabit there, there lands onely are freed from country rates, their cattell to be listed and returned according to order."[28]

May 7, 1682, "michell Humphrey" and "Sam[l] Humphries" with twenty other inhabitants of Simsbury, presented a petition

[27] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 423, 424.

[28] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 309-310.

"to the much Honered Gouernoʳ and Deputy: with yᵉ rest of yᵉ worshipfull Assistance: and worthy Members of this Honnored assembly".

They state that

"having knowledg & tryall of Mʳ Samuell Stow in yᵉ labours of yᵉ word & Doctrine of yᵉ gospel, doe hereby manifest so far as we know our own hearts, our hearty desires of his continuance, to be a Pastor & Watchman over our soules & the soules of ours, And that therefore for his & our encouragements an addresse might be made to the Generall Court, ...That We might have their countenance to setle ourselfes in gospel order, wᵗʰ the approbation & helpe of approved Elders of churches among vs, that so we might according to yᵉ obligation yᵗ God hath layd vpon vs, through yᵉ application of yᵉ Representative blood of his Son, walk more orderly to his praise & the salvation of our Soules in observance of whatsoever he hath commanded vs in his Holy worde having yᵉ meanes & helpes that he hath appointed therevnto."[29]

The people of Simsbury chose "Mʳ Samuel Stow and Michall Humphries" as a committee to present this petition to the General Assembly.

The General Assembly stated that

"we see no cause to discourage but to alow them so to doe, it being done with the observation and approbation of three or foure of the elders and messengers of the neighbouring churches, adviseing that their inhabitants doe chose a competent number of the most sober and godly persons to begin that church and call the officer, as is desired by them."[30]

If anything was done under this act of the Assembly, nothing is now known about it, and all church records, if any were kept, have disappeared.

The records now extant begin with the organization of the church on November 10, 1697, and the ordination of Dudley Woodbridge as its pastor.

Michael, John and Samuel Humphrey were among the thirty persons who on May 7, 1683, signed an agreement providing that the "difference arising amongst us concerning the setling the place of the meting house" might be determined by lot. The result of the drawing was to locate the meeting house on "the west syd the riuer", "at hoppe meadow".[31]

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[29] "Ecclesiastical", vol. 1, document 80, Conn. State Library.

[30] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 3, p. 101.

[31] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 23.

August 14, 1685, Michael was one of a committee appointed by the town "with full power to make an esay after another Minister" to succeed Reverend Samuel Stow.[32]

January 9, 1683, he signed a deed which was acknowledged September 12, 1684, in which he gave to his "Eldest son John Humphries" lands in Simsbury on the east side of the river fifteen rods wide and one hundred and thirty rods long, bounded north on the range of lots in Mill swamp, east on the cart path to Weatogue, south on his (Michael's) own land and west on the river.

The witnesses to this deed were John Slater and Martha Humphries.[33]

One week after the date of this deed to John, he gave to his youngest son Samuel, a deed which was acknowledged November 3, 1684, of part of the land on Salmon Brook, given him by the town, containing seven acres and three roods.[34]

November 28, 1684, he gave Samuel one acre, one rood and eight rods of swamp, being part of the grantor's home-lot, bounded north on the rest of the lot, east and south on land of John Moses and west on land of widow Mary Mills.[34]

June 25, 1688, he signed a document authorizing the sale by the town of a lot reserved for a miller.[35] This is the last trace of him, and there is no record of his death nor that of his wife.

March 19, 1695-6, his sons, Samuel and John, seem to have made a settlement of his estate without recourse to the County Court. At this date Samuel deeded to John lands on the east side of the river at the southwest end of Mile Swamp, and in the deed it is stated that it was some of the land of their father who was dead.[36]

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[32] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 34.
[33] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", p. 44.
[34] Ibid., "Red Book", p. 49.
[35] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 82.
[36] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 35.

CHILDREN OF MICHAEL AND PRISCILLA (GRANT) HUMPHREY

JOHN	b. June 7, 1650;[37]	mar.	Hannah Griffin[42] and lived in Simsbury, Conn.
MARY	" Oct. 24, 1653;[38]	"	June 16, 1675, John Lewis[43] of Windsor, Conn.
SAMUEL	" May 15, 1656;[39]	"	Mary Mills.[42]
SARAH	" Mar. 6, 1658;[40]	"	June 11, 1680, Richard Burnham[44] of Hartford, Conn.
MARTHA	" Oct. 5, 1663;[40]	"	"in May 1686," John Shipman[45] of Saybrook, Conn.
ABIGAIL	" Mar. 24, 1665-'66;[41]	"	Feb. 12, 1684, Benjamin Graham[46] of Hartford, Conn.
HANNAH	" Oct. 21, 1669;[38]	"	before Apr. 14, 1697, Joseph Bull[47] of Hartford, Conn.

SAMUEL HUMPHREY, second son and third child of Michael and Priscilla (Grant) Humphrey, was born in Windsor, Connecticut, May 15, 1656.[48]

He removed with his father's family to Simsbury, Connecticut, and this became his permanent home.

There is no record of his marriage to MARY MILLS, daughter of Simon Mills of Windsor and Simsbury and born in the former

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[37] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 19, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 2, folio 154. The Mathew Grant Church Record confirms this date and those of the births of the other children.

[38] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 19.

[39] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 19, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 2, folio 161.

[40] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 19, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 54.

[41] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 19, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 55.

[42] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", p. 1.

[43] Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 46.

[44] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, fly leaf 2.

[45] Saybrook, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 5.

[46] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, pp. 25, 13; Graham's first child was born Dec. 1, 1685.

[47] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 151.

[48] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 19.

town December 8, 1662.[49] It probably occurred about 1680, as their first child, Mary, was born November 16, 1681.[50]

In May 1682 Samuel Humphrey was one of the inhabitants who signed a petition to the General Court asking for the continuance of Reverend Samuel Stow as "a Pastor & Watchman over our soules."[51] One year later with his father, father-in-law and brother, he signed the paper agreeing that the location of the meeting house should be decided by lot.[52]

"May the 25 1685 the Towne agreed with Andrew hyllard and Saml Humphris to Supply Mr Stow with firewood on ful and compleat Twelve moneths and they are to haue five pounds in ye ministers rate"[53]

In 1687 the town secured Reverend Edward Tompson as their minister.

At a town meeting held June 27 of that year, the inhabitants agreed to give him the use of the parsonage, lands, and, as his compensation,

"the Sume of Fifty pounds p annum in good and Current pay (viz) one third in good and Merchantable wheat at Foure shillings p. Bushell one third in pease or rye at three shillings p. Bushell and one Third in Indian corn or pork the Indian corn at two shillings sic pence per Bushell the pork at three pound ten shillings per Barrell Full gaged & well repact and also a Sufficiency of wood shall be by us provided and layd by his house for his neceesary uses at all times dureing his continuan here amongst us in work of the ministry."

Forty-nine names were signed to this agreement, the sixteenth of which was that of Samuel Humphrey.[54]

In September 1712 the town appointed him one of a committee to arrange for the ordination of the town's pastor, Reverend Timothy Woodbridge.[55]

The public life of Samuel Humphrey began with his election to the office of Constable in December 1683.[56]

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[49] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 26, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 4, reverse end, p. 130, Simon Mills inventory and Probate Files.

[50] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", p. 1.

[51] "Ecclesiastical", vol. 1, document 80, Conn. State Library.

[52] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 23.

[53] Ibid., p. 20.

[54] Ibid., original vol., p. 50.

[55] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 115.

[56] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 30.

Two years later he was chosen Collector of Rates.[57]

December 24, 1686, he was elected Way warden, and in March, 1688

"for ye east Syde of the riuer and he has the care and ouersight of ye way from Terryes plane to weatouge and of that way that goes from weatoug houses towars hartward."

He was reëlected to the latter office in May 1689[58] and again chosen in July 1697.[59]

He was given the office of Fence viewer "for the West Syde the riuer" in March 1690 and for Salmon Brook fields in December 1709.[60]

The duties of Hayward and Pound keeper for the east side of the river were assigned to him in April 1695, January 1695-6, and December 1710;[61] those of Lister in December 1692, February 1697-8, and January 1700-'01, also on the last named date "Sizer of lands."[62]

In February 1692-3 and January 1699-1700 committees were chosen by the town to run the line between Simsbury and Farmington, also in December 1704 to perfect the south and west bounds of the town. In each case Samuel Humphrey was one of the men named for that work.[63]

He was elected one of the Townsmen or Selectmen in December 1694, '99, 1702, '03, '04 and '05,[64] and was appointed keeper of the "Ordinary" or tavern in February 1696-7, 1703-4, December 1712 to 1716 inclusive, December 1718 and later continued in business until at least 1724 by license from the County Court.[65]

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[57] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 37.

[58] Ibid., pp. 42, 61, 74.

[59] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 29.

[60] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 48, and Town Acts, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 100.

[61] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 2, reverse end, pp. 20, 21, 99.

[62] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 91, and Town Acts, vol. 2, reverse end, pp. 9, 10.

[63] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 92, and Town Acts, vol. 2, pp. 51, 78.

[64] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 2, reverse end, pp. 17, 12, 65, 69, 10, 79.

[65] Ibid., vol. 2, reverse end, pp. 24, 72, 121, 124, 128, 132, 135; vol. 3, p. 6, and Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vols. 2 and 3, in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court.

For a few years beginning with 1693 the lists of the inhabitants with the amount of rate or tax which each was to pay, are entered on the Simsbury Town Records.

In 1693 the total amount of the tax was £28–05–06, of which Samuel was to pay £0–13–10. In 1696 he paid a town rate of £0–9–9¼ and a minister's rate of £1–18–00. The following year his taxable property was valued at £86 and his town rate was £2–03–00 and the minister's rate £1–15–01.[66]

Among the expenses of the town for 1697 are a number of charges in favor of Samuel Humphrey:

	L S D
2 gallons of wine	0–12– 0
7 quarts of "cyder"	0– 1– 9
"keeping horsis"	0– 4– 0
Dinner for six men	0– 6– 0
3 gills of "Rume" and other items	0–14– 0
4 quarts of methigilin[67]	0– 3– 8
3 "daies" work at town house	0– 7– 6
For iron to make hinges	0– 1–11
100 feet of boards	0– 6– 0
Total	£2–16–10[68]

Like the other men of his time he was a member of the military company or train band of the town.

"May ye last 1689" he was chosen Sergeant "by ye trayn band of Simsbury"[69] and again in October 1691, the election being approved by the County Court in April 1693.[70] In May 1698 the General Assembly confirmed the action of the train band of the preceding month in promoting him to the rank of Ensign,[71] and in May 1710 confirmed his election as Lieutenant.[72]

[66] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 2, pp. 1, 3, 4, 7.

[67] Metheglin, a fermented liquor composed of one part of honey dissolved in three of boiling water, to which malt, yeast and spices are added. Standard Dictionary.

[68] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 2, p. 6.

[69] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 76.

[70] Ibid., p. 89, and Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 5, pp. 54, 56.

[71] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 3, and Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 4, p. 252.

[72] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 5, p. 145.

In March 1715-'16 the militia in Simsbury was divided into two companies, each choosing its own officers. The returns to the General Assembly as preserved among the State archives do not mention his name, and his military service is supposed to have ended in that year, as he had arrived "above the age of fifty five years" when he became exempt from military duty.[73]

He bore the title for the rest of his life and is frequently mentioned on the town records as Lieutenant Samuel Humphrey.

In May and October 1702, "Ensign Sam[ll] Vmphries" was a Deputy to the General Assembly from the town of Simsbury.[74]

The General Assembly for May 1712 elected him one of the Justices of the Peace for Hartford County, in which office he was continued until May 1725.[75]

His nephew Samuel, "son of John", was also chosen to this office in May 1719, 1723, 1724 and 1725.[76]

January 16, 1683, Michael Humphrey signed a deed which was acknowledged November 3, 1684, conveying to his son Samuel the lands on Salmon Brook, given to said Michael by the town of Simsbury, amounting to seven acres and three roods, bounded north on land of George Sanders, east on land of Nathaniel Holcomb, southeast and west on the commons.

The witnesses to this deed were John Slater and Mary Mills.[77]

November 28, 1684, Samuel received further land from his father, one acre, one rood and eight rods, part of the grantor's home-lot, bounded north on the remainder of the homestead, east and south on land of John Moses and west on land of widow Mary Mills.[77]

In December 1684 the town gave him and his brother John a piece of land under the West Mountains and east of Spruce Swamp.[78] One year later he had another grant from the town of that "pond on the Mountain on the East Syde the riuer against Mil Swamp and of the land about the sd pond twenty

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[73] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 5, p. 83.

[74] Ibid., vol. 4, pp. 371, 395.

[75] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 5, pp. 321, 445, 508, 565, and vol. 6, pp. 11, 43, 124, 178, 241, 317, 379, 456.

[76] Ibid., vol. 6, pp. 124, 379, 456, 518.

[77] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", p. 49.

[78] Ibid., "Red Book", p. 48, and Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 36.

Accres".[79] In May 1693 the town granted house-lots and pasture lots on Salmon Brook to Salmon Brook men. Samuel Humphrey was given two acres for a house-lot and four acres for pasture.[80]

About the beginning of the eighteenth century the inhabitants began to take notice of the traces of mineral ores in the town, and especially those of copper. At a town meeting held May 6, 1707, an agreement was made which provided for the working of mineral lands. A committee was appointed to employ a man to carry on mining under its supervision. Any of the inhabitants of the town were at liberty before June 1 following, to sign the agreement by which they bound themselves to pay their share of the expenses and to profit in the ore, also to pay the town in cash ten shillings for each ton of ore mined. Samuel Humphrey was one of the signers.[81] He was one of the committee that in November 1712 gave a lease of the mine lands for thirty years to Jonathan Belcher, Junior, of Boston, William Partridge of Newbury, Massachusetts, and Timothy Woodbridge, Junior, of Hartford.[82]

He bought of Thomas Moses for £18 on June 26, 1717, seventy acres at a place called "between the Phillips" on the east side of the road from Simsbury to Hartford.[83]

January 22, 1722-'23, the undivided land in the town was allotted to the inhabitants and "Lieut. Humphreys" was given three hundred acres.[84]

In 1716 he began to make a division of his real estate among his sons.

August 20 of that year he deeded to his son Samuel five and one-half acres of land at Weatogue on the east side of the river comprising a home-lot with house and orchard, bounded west on the highway and south on the grantor's home-lot.[85] The property was taken by the grantee as part of his share of his father's estate to the amount of £60.[85]

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[79] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", p. 48, and Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 45.

[80] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, original vol., p. 29.

[81] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 84.

[82] Ibid., vol. 2, reverse end, p. 118.

[83] Ibid., vol. 2, reverse end, p. 189.

[84] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 24.

[85] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 4, p. 338.

To his son Jonathan as a part of his share to the amount of £5 he gave on December 4, 1719, two pieces of land at Weatogue. The first piece contained one and three-quarter acres and was bounded north on the grantor's home-lot, east and south on land of the grantee. The second piece was part of the home-lot of Michael Humphrey, father of the grantor, and contained about three roods.[86]

December 1, 1725, at a valuation of £50 he gave to his son Noah forty-two acres and three roods on the east side of the river at the east end of Mount Philip.[87]

December 6, 1725, November 20, 1727, and August 29, 1728, he made conveyances to his son Charles. The lands conveyed were four and one-quarter acres "between the two Philips" on the east side of the river, four and three-quarter acres with house and orchard at Weatogue, a part of his nine-acre lot, one-half of the Long Meadow lot, one-half of the Meadow Plain lot, and one hundred and thirty-three acres of the Division lot in the West Half Mile on Bald Hill in the West Mountains.[88]

September 12, 1728, he and his wife Mary gave to their son Noah a deed of their house and home-lot of four and one-half acres, bounded north on the highway, east on land of Samuel Humphrey, Junior, south on other land of the grantor and highway, and west on land of Charles Humphrey and James Hillyer, a part of the nine-acre lot, one-half of the Long Meadow lot, one-half of the Meadow Plain lot, a division lot in the Second Mile South Division and a division lot in the First Mile North Division.[89]

July 29, 1734, Noah was given nine acres on the hill on the east side of the river, easterly from Weatogue houses.[90]

Jonathan received, May 28, 1729, eleven acres and one rood of land on the middle branch of Hop Brook under the West Mountains, twenty acres and the pond against Mile Swamp on the mountain on the east side of the river, and eighteen acres, one rood and twenty rods adjoining the last piece.[91]

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[86] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 4, p. 47.
[87] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 6.
[88] Ibid., vol. 5, pp. 18, 142, 180.
[89] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 178.
[90] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 146.
[91] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 244.

March 3, 1731-'32, Samuel Humphrey, Senior, and Joseph Phelps, Senior, "for love good will and affection" conveyed to Samuel Humphrey, Junior, twenty acres of land at Humphrey's and Phelps's Suffrage, bounded east on the river.[92]

In "Consideration of Love Good Will and affections which I have and Do bear unto my four Sones viz: to Samuel Jonathan Charels and Noah", of Simsbury, Samuel Senior on April 7, 1735, gave them all his interest in the undivided lands in the town of Windsor.[93]

[Mary Hu]"mphris ye wife of Liu^{t} samuel Humphris [departed th]is life Aprill ye fourth—1730".[94]

"Lieu^{t}: Samuel Humphry Departed this Life June the: 15th Anno: Domini: 1736: Aged 80 years".[95]

July 22, 1734, he made his will which was presented to the Hartford Probate Court, July 8, 1736. He gave to his daughter Mary £39–06–08, to his daughter Elizabeth £33–06–08, and to his daughter Abigail £24–06–08.

He directed that their shares should be paid in moveable estate, and that the goods which he had delivered to them since the death of his wife Mary should be accounted as part of their portions. In case the moveable estate was insufficient to pay their shares, then they were to be given the balance in his Ash Swamp lands, unless his sons should pay the amounts due to said daughters. If his sons should make up such amounts then the Ash Swamp lands were given to the latter to be divided equally.

To his four sons, Samuel, Jonathan, Charles and Noah, he gave all his interest in the undivided lands in the towns of Simsbury and Windsor.

To his son Noah he gave a tract of land on the hill eastward from the house and bounding south on the highway.

To his granddaughter Sarah Case he gave £19 in moveable estate.

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[92] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 5, p. 331.
[93] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 16.
[94] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 3, p. 245.
[95] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 219.

He appointed his son Jonathan Humphrey, his daughter Mary Case, and John Humphrey of Simsbury, his executors.[96]

An inventory of the estate is recorded on pages 25 and 26 of the reverse end of volume 13 of the Hartford Probate Records. The real estate consisted of

19 acres in Ash Swamp,	£114–00–00
40 acres in the West Mountains west of Cherry Brook	40–00–00
besides clothing, household furniture, etc., including a sword at	00–14–00.
The total value thereof was	£227–19–10

There is nothing on record to indicate any further action on the estate.

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL AND MARY (MILLS) HUMPHREY

MARY	b. Nov. 16, 1681;[97]	mar. Dec. 7, 1699, Bartholomew Case[100] of Simsbury, Conn.
ELIZABETH	" Apr. 22, 1684;[97]	" July 4, or 5, 1705, John Collyer[101] of Hartford, Conn.
SAMUEL	" May 17, 1686;[97]	" 1, Feb. 23, 1709-'10, Hannah Phelps.[102] 2, Feb. 26, 1712-'13, Mary Tuller.[103] 3, Dec. 6, 1714, Lydia North.[104] 4, Oct. 31, 1731, Mary Orton[105] and lived in Simsbury, Conn.
JONATHAN	" Dec. 2, 1688;[97]	" June 30, 1714, Mercy Ruggles[104] and lived in Simsbury, Conn.
ABIGAIL[98]	"	" Jan. 24, 1716-'17, John Case[104] of Simsbury, Conn.
HANNAH	" Apr. 6, 1697;[97]	nothing further known about her.
CHARLES[98]	"	mar. May 8, 1723, Hepzibah Pettibone[106] and lived in Simsbury, Conn.

[96] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 12, p. 48, and vol. 13, reverse end, p. 24.

[97] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", p. 1.

[98] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 13, reverse end, p. 24, will of Samuel Humphrey.

NOAH b. Mar. 30, 1706-7,[99] bap. Apr. 6, 1707;[99] mar. Apr. 27, 1726, Hannah Case[107] and lived in Simsbury, Conn.

[99] Rev. Dudley Woodbridge, his Church Record at Simsbury in Conn., 1697-1710, p. 24.

[100] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", reverse end, p. 0.

[101] Ibid., vol. 2, reverse end, p. 1, and Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 26.

[102] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 1.

[103] Ibid., vol. 2, reverse end, p. 2.

[104] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 2, p. 27.

[105] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 233.

[106] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 257.

[107] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 251.

THE FAMILY OF

MATHEW GRANT

Roger Clap, one of the settlers of Dorchester, Massachusetts, wrote a brief history of the early years of the town which remained in manuscript until 1731, when it was printed under the title of "Memoirs of Captain Roger Clap." From this work we learn that a number of families sailed from Plymouth, England, on the 20th of March 1629-30, and arrived on the Massachusetts coast, at Nantasket, later called Hull, on the 30th of the following May. Among the passengers were two ministers, John Maverick and John Warham, the latter of whom became the first pastor of the church at Windsor, Connecticut. Mr. Clap states in his "Memoirs" that Captain Squeb, the commander of the vessel which brought over the immigrants, refused to carry out his agreement to bring the passengers in the vessel into the Charles river,

"as he was bound to do; but, put us ashore and our Goods on Nantasket Point and left us to shift for our selves in a forlorn Place in this Wilderness."[1]

There is nothing in this story which reveals the name of the vessel but from Governor Winthrop's History of New England we learn that it was the "Mary and John."[2]

Savage states that one of the passengers on this vessel was MATHEW GRANT.[3] As there is not known to be in existence any list of the passengers who, according to Clap were "many in Number", and in the absence of other evidence it is impossible to determine whether or not this statement is correct.

That Grant became a resident of Massachusetts before May 1631 is proved by the fact that his name appears in the list of

[1] Memoirs of Roger Clap, Boston, 1844, pp. 19, 39, 40.

[2] History of New England, by John Winthrop, Boston, 1853, vol. 1, p. 32.

[3] Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England, by James Savage, vol. 2, p. 292.

those persons who were made freemen of the colony of Massachusetts Bay on the 18th of that month.[4]

The officers of the colony removed from Old England to New England in the summer of 1630, bringing with them their charter and records. The record of May 18, 1631, reveals the names of 116 persons who were the first to be admitted in this country as freemen of the colony.

The first two leaves or four pages of the oldest volume of Town Records of Dorchester, Massachusetts, have not been preserved. Commencing with page 5, this book has been printed as volume 4 of the Boston Record Commissioners' Report. On page 5 of the original record or page 1 of the printed volume is this entry:

"Anno, April. 3. 1633. It is agreed that a doble rayle with mortesses in the posts, of 10 foote distance one from the other, shall be set up in the Marish, from the corner of Richard Phelps, his pale[5] Eastward to the Creeke, by the owners of the Cowes vnder named p'portionally, 20 foote to every cowe."

Following this entry is a list of twenty-two names. The twelfth was that of "Mathew Graunt", who had "2 Cowes" and was to build "40 foote of fence."

May 24, 1634, an order was passed requiring the inspecting of

"the pales of the East feild toward the South, and if they find any defect in the pale to give notice to the delinquent, and the same penalty and conditions of the order of the 20th of May to stand in force to all intents and purposes."

"Westfeild. It is ordered that Mathew Graunt, and George Phillips and John Moore shall do in like manner and the same conditions as aforesayd."[6]

"April 17th 1635. It is ordered that Nicholas Vpsall, and Mathew Graunt shall p'ceed in the measureing of the great lotts as they have begun, for which they are to be payed 2d an acre by the owners of the land and this measuring to stand for continueance."[7]

In the following November, Grant and three other residents of the town were authorized to lay out to various persons lands which had been granted to them.[8] That Mathew Grant owned

[4] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 1, p. 366.
[5] Pale, a fence made of pointed stakes.
[6] Boston Record Commissioners' Report, vol. 4, p. 6.
[7] Ibid., vol. 4, p. 10.
[8] Ibid., vol. 4, p. 12.

land in Dorchester is proved by an entry on the Town Records under date of 2 of 3 month (May), 1642, showing the sale by Christopher Gibson of "that great lot that was granted Mathew Grant that was about 3 ackers".[9]

In the summer of 1635 steps were taken by the residents of Dorchester, Newtown and Watertown to make settlements on the Connecticut river. As will be seen later, Grant was one of those persons who in September 1635 had removed and were laying out a plantation which for a short time bore the name of the Massachusetts town, Dorchester, and was named Windsor, February 21, 1636-7.[10]

It is known that a number of those that went to the Connecticut valley in the summer of 1635 returned to Massachusetts for the winter and the entry on the Dorchester records of "ijth of November 1635" would indicate that Grant was one of them.

That he had become a permanent resident of Windsor, Connecticut, before May 1637, when war was declared against the Pequot Indians, is shown by the following entry on folio 13 of the original volume 1 Windsor Land Records:

"January 11, 1659."

"When this booke was deliuered to mathew Grant to keepe And order the records of lands for the Towne. in Agust 20 1652 he found that the page wheare his land was entered was rent out and lost by the former register. yet stod upon record in the cuntry booke. And now him selfe entring it heare though adding som more expressions then is to be seene in the cuntry booke yet not to vary from the trwe quality and quantity"

"Mathew Grant at the first begining had granted for a home lott six acrs in length and bredth as other of the same quantity but in time of danger by the pequet warr nighbours desiered to Joyne nearer to gether so as to be capable to make some fortification then he resigned up his home lott for to be deuided into small pcels to build upon only reserued a pcell for him selfe wheare he had begun: some building and since by some addission is now one acr more or less as it is bounded north by the orchyard of the Towne howse south by Thomas deble, west by the streat theare in bredth nyne rodd, east by a water course at the foot of the banke."

"Also adioyning to it three acrs more or less of swamp or medow land as it is bounded north by a highway that deuids it and the land of georg Phelps south by georg Phellups east by the medow Highway west by the foresaid parcell and the bredth of Thomas debls orchard."

[9] Boston Record Commissioners' Report, vol. 4, p. 52.

[10] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 7.

In accordance with the law of 1639, requiring a record to be made by the Town Clerk of each town of all grants or transfers of land in the town and a transcript to be sent to the Colonial Secretary for record, the entries of Windsor lands on the Colony Records begin in 1640.

On folio 7 as originally numbered, afterward changed to folio 13, of the Windsor lands in volume 1 of Colonial Land Records is this description of the Grant property:

"Mathew Graunt hath graunted frō the Plantation on pcell of ground wthin the Palasadoe on the North side the riurlett one hundred rodd of ground more or les, and is nyne rodd in breadth bounded on the North by a psell of Nicholas Denslowes, on the South by a psell of Will. Hulbards by the street on the west by the palazadoe on the East./
"as also adioyneing the Palazadoe three acres and halfe, in breadth fifteene rodd more or les bounded on the North by a way that Diuyds yt & Tho Dewey, on the South by George Phillips and the meadow range on the East./"

The Colony Record also shows that he had five acres of meadow, twenty-five acres in "the North west field" and "over the great river next the river in breadth twenty four rodd" and three miles in length.

His first known public service was on the jury of the Particular Court, March 5, 1644-5, and he also served on the jury of that Court and the Hartford County Court from that time at various dates to November 5, 1668, inclusive.[11]

Owing to the loss of the Windsor Records of Town meetings from the settlement down to 1650, it is impossible to determine whether he held any office by the gift of his townsmen before that date.

April 23, 1651, Henry Wolcott, John Bissell, and Mathew Grant were appointed to designate the town line between Hartford and Windsor and in March 1660 he was appointed on a committee to designate the bounds between these two towns on the east side of the Connecticut River.[12]

In the Code of Laws adopted by the General Court in May 1650 was a section entitled "Rates." This law provided that there should be annually chosen in each town three persons, one

[11] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 122; Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, pp. 1, 29, 35, 42, 57, 67, 96; vol. 3, p. 81.

[12] Windsor, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, folios 6, 42.

of whom should be a Commissioner, later known as Justice of the Peace, to value the property of the town on which to lay the tax or rate.[13]

March 24, 1651,

"Theare ware three men Chosen to take a Vew of the State of the Towne according to the order of Court for that purpose".

The men so chosen were Henry Wolcott, Commissioner, John Bissell and Mathew Grant. Grant was again chosen to this office in April 1654.[14]

At a town meeting held August 20, 1652,

"Mathew Grant Was chossen to be Towne Clarke".[15]

At the same meeting he was chosen one of the Townsmen or Selectmen. With the exception of 1657, he was annually reëlected to this latter office until 1662, and again in 1667, 1669, 1671, 1672 and 1677.[16] He may have served in other years but from 1662 the records of election to town offices are very imperfect.

In some manner the Town had become the owner of property adjoining the homestead of Mathew Grant. The following unusual vote is entered on folio 33 of the first volume of Town Votes:

"Juen 8. 57."

. . . . . .

"Also the same meeting it was caled into questian the legalnes of the record of ye towne howse, wheare upon it was uoated that ye townes men should cause the holle towne to meet as conueniently as they could giuing sufficient warning of the ptickler ocasion to each man iniaged in the purchas. that so theare might be a ioynt Debate for futer selling

"also in ye meane time mathew grant was apointed by voat to se ye preseruing of the howse and orchyard and when any frute come to ripnes the townes men should haue the dispossing of it for the benifit of ye Towne."

As Town Clerk or Recorder, Grant had many duties to perform in addition to keeping a record of land transactions and of births, marriages and deaths.

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[13] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 547.

[14] Windsor, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, folios 8, 20.

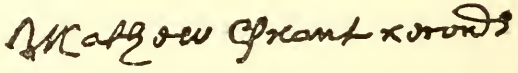
[15] Ibid., vol. 1, folio 10.

[16] Ibid., vol. 1, folios 10, 18, 21, 25, 32, 36, 41, 43, 50, and part 2, folios 9, 19, 22, 24, 46.

This entry taken from folio 48 of volume 1 of Town Votes under date of February 25, 1660, will give some idea of his labors:

"Also this Day acounts taken of the Town debbts.....
for impliment by mat. grant for the Towne the yeare past as followeth:
for time spent about ordering the last spring Town rat
of 49l wth uarious acounts wth men for worke Don, keeping
of the acounts of seural rats to distingwish them 2- 9- 0
for ordering the list of the towne stat last year and 2
days spent at hartford about it 0-15- 6
for drawing the state into the book for a rule of rating
making mr warams rat in october and publishing of it from
howse to howse 0-16- 0
for transcribing 18 court orders and going with my sonn:
and others podang line and som time alredy bounding
wayes. 4. days 1- 1- 6.
5- 2- 0"

Document 64 dated August 31, 1668, in volume 1 of Private Controversies in the Connecticut State Library relates to matters in the town of Windsor, and is attested by Grant thus



In 1675 a case was before the courts regarding the lands which had been granted to the Loomis family. As part of the evidence Mathew Grant as Town Clerk or Recorder made a copy of the record of the lands to which he added the following, thereby revealing the conscientious thoroughness with which he performed the duties assigned him:

"now after this there was entred upon liberty granted them by exchang to resigne up these aboue exprest parcels agayne to ye Town, and thus exprest in ye margent againest ye pcell of Joseph loomys, snr this prcell of land of 40. acers of land was resigned up to ye Town upon exchang and Joseph loomys ye elder toke up twenty acers towards or in part of ye forty acers resigned up, with his sonn Joseph and sonn John at pip staue swamp so that ye father and two sonnes toke up eyghty acers there togethe not deuiding. but this was not put one record till may. 1663. when thay had me out a second time to renew ye bounds, for it was abought eyghteen yeare before yt it was first set out
this I doe testify to be truth Mathew
Grant recorder"

"And if any question my vppritness and leagal acting about our towne affaiers that I haue benn imployed in as mesuring of land and setting out of lotts to men which has ben don by me from our first begining here, come nixt septembr is. 40 yere. I neuer set out land to any man. untill I knew he had a grant to it from ye Townesmen. and Townes aprobation or about recording after ye Book was turnd to me which is nere 23 year senc, I can saye with a cleare conscienc I haue ben carfull to doe nothing upon one mans desier.

"and conserning these lands in contrevarcy I ame sertaine thay had a clere liberty granted of an exchang and to tak it wheare I set it out to them. and it cannot be much short of 30 years senc, but I lost a booke I used to cary in my pocat in which I all ways set doun my mesuring ground that after ward I might be sertayn how ye bownds ware set and ye point of ye compas. and by loss of it I meet with a great deal of troble by ye want of it, and do not question but had set it doun in that book and can not now till ye sertayn year and month when it was don. and for town grants I had not then ye keeping of Town Books where such things ware entred. this I speak to clear what it may in these contreuarsies—

Mathew Grant recordr. a title I tak no pleasur in. but they say I must ad it."

"Exhibited in Court Aprill 21 1675
Test John Allyn Sec^ry."[17]

About 1675 Grant made a record, partly from memory and partly from older records, of facts pertaining to the history of the town, such as names of members of the Dorchester church, baptisms, admissions, births, deaths and other items. This book, now known as the "Mathew Grant Church Record", with leaves worn and very frail, and in some places the entries much faded, has found a permanent home among the treasures of the Connecticut Historical Society.

In the list of deaths on page 86 of this book is this entry:

"May 19 1640 the mother Mathew grant. dyed"

There is no entry of this death on the Town Records and nothing is known as to her name. As her son Mathew was born in 1601,[18] she must have been over fifty years of age when she died.

The genealogy of the Grant family printed in the second edition of Stiles's Ancient Windsor is the work of that careful and

[17] "Private Controversies", vol. 1, document 138, Conn. State Library.
[18] Stiles's History of Windsor, Conn., Hartford, 1892, vol. 2, p. 303.

thorough historian D. Williams Patterson of Newark Valley, Tioga County, New York. Dr. Patterson gives in his work a copy of Mathew Grant's family record, from which we copy, the original at that time, 1870, being in the possession of J. Hammond Trumbull, LL.D., of Hartford, Connecticut.

"Matthew Graunt was maried to his first wife prysilla in the yeare 1625, nouember 16.
Shee died in the yeare 1644: aprill 27, being 43 years of age and 2 moneths.
Prissilla Graunt was borne in the yeare 1626: Septem 14.
Samuel Graunt was borne in the yere 1631: noumber 12:
Tahan Graunt was borne in the yere 1633 febuari 3.
John Graunt was borne in the yeare 1642, April 30.
Mayth 29: 1645: Matthew Graunt
and Susanna ware maried:
Matthew Graunt was then three and fortey yeares of age Seuen monethes and eyghtene dayes: born in the yeare 1601, october 27, tusdaye.
Susanna Graunt was then three and fortey yeares of age seuen wekes & 4 dayes borne in the year 1602: aprel the 5 Mondaye."[19]

In this record the surname of Grant's second wife Susanna is not given. The entry of the marriage on page 56 of volume 1 of Windsor Births, Marriages and Deaths gives her name as SUSANNA ROCKWELL.

It has been shown that Mathew Grant was made a freeman of the colony of Massachusetts Bay at a session of the General Court held May 18, 1631.

At the same session an act was passed explanatory of an order made in October, 1630, regarding the election of Assistants by the freemen or commons, the final clause of which reads:

"& to the end the body of the comons may be pserued of honest & good men, it was likewise ordered and agreed that for time to come noe man shalbe admitted to the freedome of this body polliticke, but such as are members of some of the churches within the lymitts of the same./"[20]

In the Mathew Grant Church Record before referred to, is given a list of those persons who as members of the Dorchester church removed to Windsor with Mr. Warham and were living when the record was made December 22, 1677, more than forty years after the removal.

[19] Stiles's History of Windsor, Conn., Hartford, 1892, vol. 2, pp. 303, 304.
[20] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 1, p. 87.

In the list appears the name of Mathew Grant.[21]

In May 1676 word was sent to the Connecticut Colonial authorities at Hartford of the great suffering by reason of King Philip's war, of the inhabitants of Massachusetts and Plymouth colonies, and asking for aid. Whereupon notices were dispatched to the various towns requesting a speedy response to this appeal.[22]

On pages 91 and 92 of the Mathew Grant Church Record is this entry:

"This is ye count of what Parsons gaue to ye uollintarie contrebution mad for ye Poor in wanths in other collonyes. upon a motion sent to This collony of connecticot it was don Juen. 11.76."

Following this heading is a list of the names of 148 persons with the amount contributed by each making a total of £26–01–01. Eight of the contributors specified what their subscriptions should be paid in. One gave bacon worth 2^s–9^d, two, flax worth 2^s–3^d, two paid in cloth valued at 10^s–3^d, and only three of the entire number paid in "siluer" money to the amount of 9^s–9^d.

The Grant family contributed as follows:

"mathew Grant silur	0–3–0"
"Samuell Grant	0–5–0"
"Tahan Grant	0–8–0"
"John Grant	0–2–6"

Mention has been made of the real estate owned by Grant in the town of Windsor.

On folio 106 of original volume 1 of the Land Records of that town is an entry giving the description of four and one-quarter acres of swamp woodland belonging to Michael Humphrey "by gift from his father in lawe mathew grant".

June 24, 1658, is the date of an entry on folio 179 of the same volume which reads thus:

"Samuell Grant has by gift from his father Mathew Grant of Windsor at ye mariag of his sonn Samuell Grant towards his childes portion one parcell of land one ye east side of ye great Riuer; in bredth Twenty fower rodd more or less bounded thin northerly by ye land of Jane Baker southerly then by ye land of micall Houmferys west by ye great Riuer & runes in leangth from ye riuerEast from ye riuer ye fore said bredth three mills."

[21] Page 16 of original manuscript in possession of the Conn. Historical Society.

[22] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 445.

May 27, 1681, Mathew Grant made a conveyance to his son Samuel of fifty acres of land which had been granted to him to be laid out in the Commons.[23]

"Sussanna, wife of Mathew Grant Dyed, the Evening after the 13th: day of November, 1666, aged 65 years wanting 20 weeks."
"Mathew Grant, Recorder, Dyed, Decembr: 16th: 1681."

These two entries appear on page 44 of the first volume of Births, Marriages and Deaths of the town of Windsor.

As Mathew Grant stated in his family record that he was born "in the yeare 1601, october 27," he was in his eighty-first year when he died.

In the original first volume of Windsor Land Records, folio 248, is an entry made October 31, 1681, and certified by "Mathew Grant Recorder." As he died less than three months later, and in the absence of evidence to the contrary, he is believed to have held this office at the time of his death.

Mathew Grant was a man of varied occupations. He was a farmer, land surveyor and as such, at times in the employment of both town and colony, selectman, assessor, recorder or town clerk and local historian.

He was evidently a man of energy, reliability, sound judgment, and uprightness of character and withal singularly modest.

As will be shown later he spent the last years of his life in the family of his son John.

"Desember 9th 1681", or one week before his death,

"Mathew Grant of Windzor beinge aged and vnder present weaknes, yet of Competency of vnderstandinge"

made this will:

"1st I doe declare that my son Samuell my eldest son is already satisfyed with the portion I made ouer to hime in Land already recorded to hime and that is my will concerninge hime

"2dly Concerninge my son Tehan my will is that hee shall haue as a legassy payd to hime in Country paye by my son John the full Some of fiue pound and this to bee payd two yeers after my decease also I doe appoynt hime to gather vpp all the debts oweinge to me in this towne or else where and my will is hee, my son Tehan shall haue them for his owne

[23] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, original vol. 1, folio 179.

"3dly My Will is that my son John with whome I haue liued some time I doe giue to hime all my meadow land in the great meadow, alsoe I giue to hime my pasture land lyeinge belowe the hil agaynst Thomas Dibles home lott and my owne: alsoe I doe giue hime the sayd John my home lott and orchard with the ould houseinge which I built before hee came to dwell on itt

"alsoe I doe giue to hime my wood lott lyeinge in the quarter lotts, alsoe I giue to my son John all the rest of my estate exceptinge my wareinge cloathes, my son John shall paye to my son Tehan fiue pownd as is already expressed in my will concerninge hime, at the time and manner afforesayd, and allsoe vonto my Daughter Humferyes fiue pownd in Country pay two yeers after my decease

"Alsoe my will is and I doe giue my Daughter Humferryes as a legassy fiue pownd to bee payd in Country paye two yeers after my decease, alsoe I giue her all my wareinge cloathes

"I doe make my son John sole executtr of this my last will and Testament as wittness my hand

Mathew Grant"

The witnesses to the will were John Loomis, Senior, and Thomas Dibble.

An inventory of the estate was taken January 10, 1681. This and the will were presented to the Hartford County Court March 2, 1681-2, and ordered recorded. The total value of the estate was £119–18–06, not as entered on the record £118–18–06, of which £48 was in landed property.[24]

There does not appear to have been any further action on the estate by the County Court.

CHILDREN OF MATHEW AND PRISCILLA ( ) GRANT

PRISCILLA b. Sept. 14, 1626;[25]		mar. Oct. 14, 1647, Michael Humphrey[28] of Windsor and Simsbury, Conn.
MATHEW[26] "		died Sept. 10, 1639.[29]
SAMUEL	" Nov. 12, 1631,[27] in Dorchester;	mar. May 27, 1658, Mary Porter[30] and lived in Windsor, Conn.
TAHAN	" Feb. 3, 1633,[27] in Dorchester;	" Jan. 22, 1662, Hannah or Anna Palmer[31] and lived in Windsor, Conn.
JOHN	" Apr. 30, 1642,[27] in Windsor;	" Aug. 2, 1666, Mary Hull[31] and lived in Windsor, Conn.

[24] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 4, p. 51, reverse end, p. 88, and Probate Files.

[25] Family Record of Mathew Grant, given in Stiles's History of Windsor, Conn., 1892, vol. 2, p. 303.

[26] On page 93 of the Mathew Grant Church Record is this entry:

"Agust ye. 17. 1677."

"I here set down what children has been Born in Windsor from our begining hether to so fare as I ame able to find out"

The list of the Grant families reads thus:

"samuel grant	8	[children.]
mathew Grant	3	"
Tahan Grant	6	"
John Grant	3	" "

There is nothing in the Church Record to show when Mathew Junior was born. In the entry of his death he is called "young mathew grant". It is impossible to determine whether he was born in Dorchester or Windsor: if in Dorchester there were two children born in Windsor of whom we have no record; if he was born in Windsor, there remains one child born there unknown to us.

[27] Family Record of Mathew Grant, given in Stiles's History of Windsor, Conn., 1892, vol. 2, p. 303, Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 56, Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 14, and Mathew Grant Church Record, pp. 44-45.

[28] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 57, and Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 52.

[29] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 86.

[30] Ibid., p. 44.

[31] Ibid., p. 45, Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 45, and Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 57.

THE FAMILY OF

SIMON MILLS

On page 59 of the present volume 1 of Births, Marriages and Deaths of the town of Windsor, Connecticut, is this entry:

"Simon Mills married his wife Jone, Oct: 18th: 1639."

On page 47 of the same volume is entered:

"Joan the wife of Simon Mills was buried July: 5th: 59."

On page 59 is written

"Simon Mills and Mary Buel were married Febr: 23d: 1659."

Mathew Grant, one of Windsor's prominent men and for a time its Town Clerk, made after 1670 a record of events in that town from the settlement, such as births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and others items of importance.

One of the entries begins thus:

"May. 23. 76. A count of Parsons that have dyed in Windsor—to begin"

Then follows under each year a list of names without any date of month or day. In the year "57" is written "ye wife of simon milles" and in the year "59"—"ye wife of simon milles."[1]

Because of all the above statements various writers have inferred that there were resident in the town about 1660 two men named Simon Mills, both of marriageable age, presumably father and son. A careful study of the Land Records of the town would indicate that there was but one Simon Mills at that time and there is nothing on the Particular Court Records to alter this opinion. The only evidence to the contrary is the Grant Record of these two deaths. The entry in 1659 is evidently meant for Joan, wife of Simon Mills, who according to the record on the town books was buried July 5 of that year. There is nothing on the Town Records to correspond with the Grant entry of 1657.

[1] Pages 87 and 89 of the original manuscript in possession of the Conn. Historical Society.

Among the laws adopted by the General Court of Connecticut in May 1650 was one requiring a record to be kept in each town of all births, marriages and deaths occurring in such town.

"And the Register of each Towne shall yearely conuey to the Secretary of the Courte a true transcript of the Births, Deaths and Marriages, giuen vnder their hands——"[2]

In accordance with this law there is preserved among the records of the colony in the Capitol at Hartford a list of deaths in the town of Windsor. Fortunately, the names in the record for 1657 are given in the same order as in the Grant Record. The second entry reads:

"The wife of Simon Woolcot dyed Aprill 27th 1657".[3]

and not as Grant recorded

"the wife of simon milles."

The town books also contain a record of the death of the wife of Simon Wolcott on the same date as the Colony Record.[4] Because of this discovery and the lack of evidence on the town and colonial records that there was more than one person in Windsor named Simon Mills, prior to the birth and death of another in 1661, the writer of this sketch is decidedly of the opinion that all the entries before referred to, except that made by Mathew Grant in his Church Record of the death in April 1657, relate to the family of one man only, and this sketch is compiled in accordance with that conviction.

Simon Mills, of whose previous history we have no knowledge, may have been living at Windsor when he was married October 18, 1639,[5] to Jone, whose surname is not given. That he was living there in 1640 is shown by the fact that on folio 75 of volume 1 of the Land Records of Windsor is the date "ffebr 6th: 1640" and a little below in the same hand the name "Symon Mills". Following this name was originally one-third or more of the page left blank evidently for a record of his homestead, the description of which is only found on page 33 or 37 (both

[2] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 551.
[3] Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 2, folio 160.
[4] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 52.
[5] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 59.

numbers are given) of the Windsor Lands in volume 1 of the Colonial Land Records, in the office of the State Secretary.

"Simon Mills hath graunted him frō the Plantation an home lott fiue acres more or les the breadth thirteen rodd more or les the length frō the riuerett back to the way on the south bounded on the north by Richard Parsons, on the south by w^{m} ffylly."

"Behind the home lotte fiue acres three roods more or les the breadth nyne rodd and the length one hundred rodd, bounded on the north by John Bartlett, on the south by wi ffylly./"

Later he bought land from Thomas Orton and the home-lots of Humphrey Hyde and William Filley.[6]

May 10, 1653, there was recorded to him as purchased of Samuel Marshall the latter's homestead of five acres with the dwelling house thereon.

The property was bounded north by land of Benjamin Newberry, east by a road running between it and the Little Meadow, south by land of Stephen Terry and west by the street. He also bought of Marshall two acres of meadow lying easterly of the homestead.[6]

A study of the Windsor Records shows that, with the exception of the Marshall purchase and a ten acre woodlot, his lands were disposed of by him while a resident of the town.

It is to be regretted that the business records of the town prior to 1650 have not been preserved. On folio 6 of volume 1 of Town Votes is this entry:

"Desem 1. 1651."

"John Mosses had alowanc to Sugorn (sojourn) with simon milles in his howse:"

This vote is in accordance with the code of 1650, in which

"It is ordered by this Courte and Authority thereof, that no Master of a Familye shall giue interteinment or habitation to any younge man to soiurne in his familye, but by the allowance of the inhabitants of the Towne where hee dwells, vnder the penalty of twenty shillings p^{r} weeke."[7]

A few more facts regarding Simon Mills are found on the Town Records:

[6] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, original vol. 1, folio 75.

[7] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 538.

In March 1660 he was chosen to the office of Fence viewer.[9]

On page 178 of volume 1 of the 1891 edition of Stiles's History of Windsor is given a copy of a record found by the author on the old town records but now missing therefrom. This relates to an assignment of seats in the meeting-house which was recorded in January 1659-'60. From the wording of this entry it is evident that William Buell had been employed as a carpenter on the building, and that he received his pay not from the town but from the persons who occupied the seats. The sums paid by them varied according to the location of the seat to which each was assigned. The entry shows that there were "long seats", "short seats" and "pews". Simon Mills was one of the persons assigned to sit in the "short seats" for which he paid 4s 6d.

One of the entries on the town book evidently relates to the raising of funds for paying the minister:

"November 30. 66"
"The sume of the papers broat in for ye minestri
sim. mils as last 0–7–8."[10]

In 1642 the General Court

"Ordered, that the Gou^rnor and Mr. Heynes shall haue liberty to dispose of the ground vppon that p^rte of Tunxis River cauled Mossocowe, to such inhabitants of Wyndsor as they shall see cause."[11]

At various dates from this time forward grants of land in this region were made to individuals and, in March 1662-'63, a committee was appointed by the General Court to lay out to such inhabitants of Windsor as desired them, all the undivided lands at Massaco, and, in July 1665, an addition was made to the committee.[12]

The Colonial Records show that in October, 1668,

"This Court doth desire that Massacoe, which hitherto hath been an appendix to the towne of Windsor, may be improued for the makeing of a plantation, & Captn. Benj: Newbery, Deacon John Moore & Mr. Symon Woolcott the present comittee for the grant of those lands are desired and impowered by the Courte to farther the planting of the same,

[9] Windsor, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 1, folio 48.
[10] Ibid., vol. 1, part 2, folio 4.
[11] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 71.
[12] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 397, and vol. 2, p. 20.

and to make such just orders as they shall judge requisitt for the well ordering of the sayd Plantation, so they be not repugnant to the publique orders of this Colony."[13]

"December 13, 1666"

"The tearmes on which the Lands at Masaco is now given are as follows they are to (—) up and make emprovement of their Land by plowing and mowing within the space of two years after their grants are confirmed to them to habitations fence as need needs requires

"21y They are to live upon their Land three yeares before they haue liberty to Scell their Lands and whoever desert it befor Shall haue no power to Sel any of their Lands onely they were to haue equitabl consideration alowed them for their expences about Building fencing as two Indiferent men Shall jundge meet

"31y Every man Shall aLow a Highway through their ground as shall be judged meet either by the Comittee that now is or by some other that Shall be appoynted to order the prudentials of the towne"

"The names of those that now appear to take upland to Masacoe upon the tearmes before exprest are as followeth"

The names of twenty-five persons are given, the last one being that of "Simon Mills."[14]

In 1668 the committee laid out "arrange [a range] of Home Lots at Wetouge" in Massaco.

"The fourth Lott Laid out for Simon Mils Tenn Rodds in Breadth Bounded by Daniel Clarks Homelott Westerly and in Length Eighty Rodds".[15]

Other grants were also made to him.

In May 1670 the General Assembly determined the bounds of Massaco and changed the name to Simsbury.[16]

It is not known just when Mills removed to the new town. In "A list of all the freemen that liue within the limits of Windsor", dated "Octob^{r} 11th 1669", appears the name of "Simon Milles".[17]

On folio 91 of original volume 1 and on folio 381 of volume 2 of the Land Records of the town of Windsor is entered a conveyance dated April 2, 1672, from Simon Mills "now dwelling at simsbury" to Anthony Hoskins of Windsor of "my dwelling

[13] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 97.
[14] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts and Grants, 1660-1691, pp. 84-85.
[15] Ibid., pp. 85-86.
[16] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 127.
[17] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 519.

house in Windsor & ye house land ptayning to it." The description of the property shows that it was the same as that recorded to Mills, May 10, 1653, as having been bought of Samuel Marshall. The deed also included the meadow land bought of Marshall and ten acres of woodland which were given him by the town of Windsor and recorded to him October 2, 1659.

In the index of "N°. 2" of the account books of John Pynchon of Springfield, Massachusetts, which are kept in the City Library of that place is this account:

"Symon Mills of Windsor"

"Agust 1654 } owes for

		s
	.1. yd ½. kersy at 8s. 9d - -	0–13–01½
	4. yds ½ red shag at 3s. 10d - -	0.17.03
	Due to me on ye wheate I sent. ½. C of bread	0.07.00
		.1.17.04½
ye bread yo baked for me not comming to so much as ye wheate I sent	Rec'd by carying 48 hhds of bread to Mattabeset ytt pt is	1.04.00
	by bringing. 12 hhds frō Hartford	0.04.00
	March 12th. 1657. 58. } rests due me pins points	0.05. 0
		0.02.00
	March 1656 all is	0.07.00

Posted :./"

On page 210 of volume 3 of the same series we find:

"Symon Mills of Windsor, Dr.

	To acot of old rests	00.07.04
Sept 10th (59)	To: 3. yds of callico blew	00 06 00
	The 17s. 3d: due to yo on acot I pd for yor to Goodm Moore & so to Ensign (Wilton?) & more you are to allow me	00 13 04

more Symon Mills. Dr.

1663 to Bake out into Bread	To. 10. bush of wheate he Recd for me of Edw. Griswold	02 00 00
	To. 4. bush of wheate frō Capt Nubery	00 16 00
	more frō Capt Nubery. 3 bush ½	00 14 00
	To 3 bush ¾. frō Joseph Lummas	00 15 00
	To 3 bush. ½ frō Wm Trawle	00 14 00
Feb^{b} 65	To. 2 laces at 5 10 & 1. at 11^{d} 2 laces at 1^{d}	00 02 00
	To 1 pair Sissars	00 00 06
Aprill 7th. 66.	To. 2. knifes 18^{d} 2 p^{r} sissars at 6^{d}	00 02 06
Nov. 8. 66	To. 4. yds of red cotton sent p^{r} G. Vore	01 00 00
Nov. 10	3. knives to David Morgan	00 02 06
May 14 67	To. 1. horne booke to D. Morgan	00 00 06
Jan. 18. 68	To issuing aco^{t} about Bisket	01 02 06
	as G. More & y^{o} make Vp ye aco^{t}. ye 18. Jan 1668	
	4: 16. 0	08 17 00"
	rests 4. 01. 0	

On page 211 it reads:

"Symon Mills Cr

Octob^{r} 1663	By 6 C of bread drd Mr Hamlin	4 16 00"

In an old unpaged book of accounts preserved in the Windsor Town Clerk's office there is entered, under date of "Hartford Decemb^{r} .15.1675", a warrant for the collection of a tax of twelve pence on the pound on the list presented to the General Court in October of that year, amounting in all to £675. Following the warrant is a list of payments which the town was to make out of the tax collected. One of the items to be paid was:

"To simon mills for baking on warr acount 01–13–6"

This of course refers to King Philip's War of 1675.

In the Mathew Grant Record before referred to:

"is ye count of what Parsons gaue to ye uollintarie contrebution mad for ye Poor in wanths in other collonyes. upon a motion sent to This collony of conecticot it was don Juen. 11. 76."

In this list of 145 names contributing £26–01–01, we find that there was given by "simon mills 0–2–6".[18]

[18] Pages 91-92 of original manuscript.

Among the records of a meeting of the Colonial Council held July 10, 1676, is this entry:

"The Councill, being informed that through the good hand of God upon vs, o^r people of this Colony, haue bountifully according to their abillity, affoarded som supply for o^r brethren in distress in o^r neighbo^r Colonyes, haue thought meet to desire that o^r bretheren of Windsor would improue what they haue gathered of the good people there, to supply those in want that are remoued by reason of the rage (of the) enemie into their towne; and y^t the remaynder of it be distributed amongst the people of Springfield in distress, and those upper townes, according to the good discression of Deacon Jno Moore, John Loomys, Jonath: Gillet Senr and Jacob Drake."[19]

Like many of the other New England towns the inhabitants of Simsbury were greatly alarmed by the danger from attack by the Indians in King Philip's War of 1675.

September 4 of that year the Colonial Council

"ordered that Windsor, each other day, shall send fowre men to clear the roads to Simsbury"[20]

And the General Court in October of that year passed a vote

"that the people of Simsbury shall haue a week's time to secure themselues and their corn there, and the end of the week from this date, the souldiers now in garrison at Simsbury shall be released their attendance there."[20]

This order withdrawing the troops that had been sent for the protection of the town must have struck terror to the hearts of the inhabitants, many of whom probably left for other settlements. Evidently all did not leave, for at a meeting of the Council held in Hartford, March 3, 1675-'76, it was voted:

"The insolences of the heathen and their rage encreasing against the English, and the spoyle that they haue made in sundry places, hath moved us to order that forthwith the people of Simsbury doe remoue themselues and what estate they can remoue, to some of the neighbouring plantations for their safety and securety."[21]

The tradition is that in accordance with this order the inhabitants immediately left Simsbury, and the Colonial Records show

[19] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 463.
[20] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 361, 269.
[21] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 412.

under date of March 27, 1676, that the place had been burned Sunday night,[22] which was March 26, when all the buildings were destroyed.

Mathew Grant in his record before referred to made an entry showing the baptism on May 11, 1679, of Simon son of Simon Mills.[23] It is impossible to determine at this late date whether Mills was still temporarily residing at Windsor or whether he brought his child from Simsbury for baptism.

As before stated

"Joan the wife of Simon Mills was buried July: 5th: 59."[24]

He married February 23, 1559-'60, MARY BUELL[25] and she was the mother of all his known children.

The Simsbury Town Records show that

"Simon Mills deperted this Lif June the eight Ano 1683."[26]

An inventory of his estate was taken July 6th, 1683, which was presented to the Hartford County Court just two months later when administration was granted to the widow and Peter Buell, supposedly her brother. The total value of the estate was given as £168–07–00. Some of the items of the inventory were:

Homelot, house and barn	£50–00–00
Lands	67–00–00
"A muskett & Back Sword & belt"	01–15–00
"a wainscott chest"	00–16–00
"A plaine chest"	00–06–00
"a child's christning blancket"	01–05–00[27]

Appended to the inventory, which is still on file in the Hartford Probate Court, is a list of the children which reads thus:

"John Mils eldist son to Siman Mils deseased fourten year old
Simon about fiue year old
mary Humphry eldist daughter about twintey year

[22] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 424.
[23] Page 57 of original manuscript.
[24] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 47.
[25] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 59.
[26] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", p. 5.
[27] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 72, reverse end, p. 130, and Probate Files, Simon Mills estate.

hanah 2d daughter about 18 year
Sarah 3d daughter about 13 year old
abigall 4th daughter about eleuen year old
Elizabeth 5th daugh about 9 years of age &
prudence 6th daughter about 7 years of age now dead./"

December 18, 1683, the Court ordered a distribution to be made of the estate. The widow was to receive in fee £16 of personal estate and the life use of one-third of the landed property. The eldest son was to receive £22 and each of the other children was to receive £11. Among the papers on file is the distribution made July 24, 1691, in accordance with this court order. This document, which was not filed with the Court for twenty-seven years, or until June 1718, and never recorded, shows that the children living at the former date were John Mills, Mary Humphrey, wife of Samuel Humphrey, Hannah Drake, wife of Simon Drake, Sarah Mills and Elizabeth Mills.[28]

Widow Mary Mills married, second, Samuel Bissell of Windsor, but the exact date is not known as there is no record of the marriage, by which there was no issue. It must, however, have taken place prior to August 2, 1697, when Bissell made his will, in which he provided for his wife Mary.[29] Samuel Bissell died in Windsor, December 3, 1700,[30] and she evidently returned to Simsbury to live with her own children.

On page 29 of volume 2 of the Town Acts of Simsbury or page 38 of the printed Births, Marriages and Deaths of that town, appears this entry:

"widow marey bissell of simsber who was wife to Samll Bissell of windsor latt decesed Departed this life June the 24th 1718".

She was born September 3, 1642, and was therefore nearly 76 years old.[31]

Her will, dated April 9, 1718, was presented to the Hartford Probate Court August 5 following.

By this document she made bequests, of personal estate only, to her eldest daughter, Mary, wife of Samuel Humphrey, and to

[28] Hartford Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 78, and Probate Files, Simon Mills estate.

[29] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 7, reverse end, p. 8.

[30] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 41.

[31] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 3.

her other daughters, Hannah and Elizabeth, also to the heirs of John Mills and the heirs of Sarah Ellsworth. The rest of her estate she gave to her son Simon Mills and appointed him executor.[32]

An inventory of her estate, valued at £17–13–09, is entered on page 282 of the reverse end of volume 9 of the Hartford Probate Records and in the document her date of death is given the same as on the Simsbury Town Records.

March 25, 1719, there was signed an agreement providing for a division and final settlement of the estate of Simon Mills to be made by "Deacon Cornish, Samuel Cass, and Joseph Cass."

The signers of this document were "Samuel Humphrys senior", Simon Mills, John Mills, Joseph Mills, Benjamin Mills and Samuel Tuller, all of Simsbury; Thomas Ellsworth, Daniel Loomis, Hannah Loomis and Thomas Hoskins of Windsor. The following day the property was divided among the heirs, who were: the heirs of John Mills, who are mentioned as John, Benjamin and Joseph; Simon Mills son of Simon deceased; Hannah Loomis; the heirs of Sarah, deceased daughter of said Simon, and Elizabeth, another daughter of said Simon. The distributors' award stated that Lieutenant "Humphry" had received his full share.[33]

CHILDREN OF SIMON AND MARY (BUELL) MILLS

SAMUEL	b. April 23, 1661;[34]	"died".[37]
SIMON	" Jan. 21, 1661;[34]	"died".[37]
MARY	" Dec. 8, 1662;[35]	mar. before Dec. 16, 1681, Samuel Humphrey[38] of Windsor and Simsbury, Conn.
HANNAH	" about 1665;[36]	mar. 1, Dec. 15, 1687, Simon Drake[39] of Windsor, Conn. 2, July 9, 1713, Daniel Loomis[40] of Windsor, Conn.
SIMON	" May 1, 1667;[34]	died young.

[32] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, p. 74, and reverse end, p. 282.

[33] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Simon Mills estate.

[34] Pages 57 and 58 of the Mathew Grant Church Record in possession of the Conn. Historical Society, and Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 26.

[35] Pages 57 and 58 of the Mathew Grant Church Record, Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 26, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 54, in office of State Secretary.

JOHN	b. June 23, 1668;[34]		mar. before Nov. 4, 1690, Sarah Pettibone[41] and lived in Simsbury, Conn.
SARAH	" Sept. 16, 1670;[34]		mar. after July 24, 1691, Thomas Ellsworth[42] of Windsor, Conn.
ABIGAIL	" about 1672;[36]		died between July 6, 1683, and July 24, 1691.[43]
ELIZABETH	" about 1674;[36]		mar. Feb. 23, 1698-9, Thomas Hoskins[44] of Windsor, Conn.
PRUDENCE	" about 1676;[36]		died between July 6, 1683, and Sept. 6, 1683.[45]
SIMON	"	bap. May 11, 1679;[37]	living Mar. 25, 1719.[46]

[36] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 4, reverse end, p. 130, list of children following the inventory of Simon Mills estate.

[37] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 57.

[38] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", p. 1.

[39] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 55.

[40] Ibid., vol. "1704-1846", Marriages, p. L.

[41] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, "Red Book", reverse end, p. 5.

[42] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, reverse end, p. 282, will of Mary Bissell, and Probate Files, Simon Mills estate.

[43] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Simon Mills estate, inventory and distribution.

[44] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 58.

[45] On the original inventory of Simon Mills's estate is a list of the children including "prudence 6th daughter about 7 years of age". This list was evidently written when the inventory was made, July 6, 1683. After the word "age" there has been added, in the handwriting of John Allyn, Clerk of the County Court, the words "now dead". The addition was probably made when the inventory was presented in court, September 6, 1683, indicating that she died sometime between these two dates.

[46] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Simon Mills estate, agreement for distribution.

THE FAMILY OF

WILLIAM BUELL

In the preparation of this sketch an attempt has been made without success to trace the history of WILLIAM BUELL prior to his appearance in Windsor, Connecticut.

It is well known that many if not all of the original settlers of that town came from Dorchester, Massachusetts, and it has been inferred that William Buell came from there also.[1]

The statement has been made by Francis Baylies in his Historical Memoir of the Colony of New Plymouth, that in October 1650 William Buell and his wife with others were indicted for holding meetings from house to house on the Lord's day, contrary to the order of the Colonial Court.[2]

From this statement at least one writer has claimed that this entry relates to William Buell of Windsor, Connecticut.[1]

On referring to volume 1, page 162, of the printed Records of the Colony of New Plymouth, it is found that the persons so indicted were all residents of Rehoboth, a town of that colony, and that it was William Deuell and not William Buell who was one of the number.

The Connecticut Historical Society possesses a manuscript record of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, and other items of importance made by Mathew Grant, for a time Town Clerk and one of the important men of the town of Windsor, Connecticut.

On page 86 of this manuscript is this entry:

> "39 decem^{r}. 3. goode buell dyed."

So far as is known there is no other record by which the Christian name and age of this person can be proved. Consequently we do not know whether she was the wife of William Buell, one of the settlers of the town of Windsor. This same

[1] History of the Buell Family, by Albert Welles, 1881, p. 23.

[2] Historical Memoirs of the Colony of New Plymouth, by Francis Baylies, 1866, vol. 1, part 2, p. 211.

Grant record shows that he was married November 18, 1640,[3] to a wife whose name was not given in the record. As will be shown later, widow MARY BUELL of Windsor, in August 1684, made a will in which she gave her property to her children, whom she mentions by name and who are known to have been the children of William Buell. It is therefore believed that this imperfect entry records the marriage of William Buell to this same Mary, but her maiden name and date of birth or age are not now known.

A record of William Buell's lands appears on folio 19 of original volume 1 of the Windsor Land Records as follows:

"Decemb: 1, 1640"

"William Buell hath graunted from the plantation an homelott fiue acres more or less in breadth foureteene rodd & quarter bounded west by John Helly, east by Samuell pond:

"Beyond the homelotts fiue acres three quarters, the breadth nine rodd & Quarter, the leng a hundred rodd, bound south by William Trall."

The records show that he had other lands by grant from the town and by purchase of John Bissell. Buell and William Filley bought, supposedly about 1646, of William Thrall, two tracts of eight acres and thirty-six acres respectively. Whether this joint purchase was a pure business transaction or whether Buell and Filley were related by blood or marriage is a question which cannot be determined at this late day.[4]

The earliest records now extant of town meetings or town votes with occasional records of the selectmen, date from about 1650. The following is taken from folio 9 of volume 1 of Town Acts:

"March 29. 1652"

"Also acounts mad wth william Buell a(bout) work don in the meeting howse the el(ders) Pew Deakons Pew magistrats Pew and the wiues Pew formerly payed. and for the fower rowes of seates in (said) Howse when the dores are up we find that his worke coms to 28–19–00

And for the new worke about altring the magistrats wifes Pew and others in that rang coms to 04–03–08

the holle sume is	33–02–08
of which he is Payed	27–08–02
more acpted of Janua. 7. 60.	02–11–00
more	01–04–00"

[3] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 35.

[4] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, original vol. 1, folio 19.

On pages 178 and 179 of volume 1 of the 1891 edition of Stiles's History of Windsor is given a copy of the record in a Book of Rates relating to the payment to William Buell for work done by him in the meeting house. As the leaves of the volume containing the original record are now missing, a part of the entry is here copied from the history:

"January 18, 1659-60"

"A note (was) taken of what dwelling houses are in the town, that the owners of them have paid for seats in the Meeting house, and how much and by whom. For those that have been placed in the two rows of long seats were first seated by five in a seat, and were to pay to William Buel 3s a person, or 6s for a man and his wife; and that made up his pay when he had finished them with doors. Also, those that were placed in the short seats, at the first were to pay 3s a person, as they in the long seats; but when it was agreed that those seats should be raised higher for more convenient hearing, they were to pay Wm. Buel 6^{d} a person more, so that for a man and his wife 7s. First I set down those that have paid, and were placed in the long seats when they paid."

Fifty-five names are in this list with amounts varying from three shillings to six shillings and a total of £15–8s–5d.

"Those that were placed in the short seats, what they paid."

Thirty-nine names follow with a total of £10–17s–3d.

"In the pews."

This last list contains seventeen names and a total of £1–11s–6d. On folio 43 of volume 1 of Windsor Town Votes is entered:

"Janua 7. 60. the seuen men meet and ageed y^{t} the meeting hows should be shingled all the guters one both sids the lanthorn and not alter ye forme of ye rofe:

"Also agred with william buell to Alter the great pue into two on prt for the magstrats and one for o(t)hers and y^{t} raised Equal wth the short setes

"Also those y^{t} be seated and neuer payd neither them selues nor by thire pedisessors in thire howses should now be caled for to make in pay to william buell for worke about the howse and also this daye william bewell toke of and acpted of so many that ware behaind in our acount as made vp –2^{l}–11^{s}–0 towards his worke don".

In part 2, folio 2, among the payments made by the town about 1660 was one to

"will buell for a payer of stocks & mending some seats 00–09–06".

And on folio 18 is another entry:

1669 "william Buell octo^{r}. 12 & 13 day part of ech came and broat to new casments for y^{e} to corner windos of ye metting hows and fitted them vp and he counted for his work. .7^{s}. which toke of his one town rat for 68. 3^{s}–1^{d} and Timothy Palmers town rat 68–3^{s}–6 so there rest Dew to him stil –5^{d}".

In the Town Clerk's office at Windsor is an ancient unpaged book of accounts. In a statement of town expenses, supposedly about February 22, 1676, is this item:

"william Buell for work on windo shuts –o–6–6"

And in 1677 appears the following:

"william Buell did sume work at ye meting house about casments for which he demanded	6^{s}– 6^{d}
Payd by his town rat. 76	2 –10
and his ferry rat in 76	1 – 6"

At the rooms of the Connecticut Historical Society is an account book of Henry Wolcott, Junior, of Windsor. On folios 23 and 24 of this volume is an account with "William Bewell", from which we quote:

"William Bewell owes me for one peare tree	o– 1–6
It for a bushell of apples	o– 5–o
It for 1-2 an ox	3–15–o"

and other items. Among the credits are these:

"It July the 30 1651 he made me a chest	o– 2–6
It he made me another chest	o– 2–6
It another chest	o– 2–6
It he paid me 2 bushells of wheate	o– 8–o
It fower dayes work	o– 8–o
	1– 3–6
It for one dayes work sept 27 1653	o– 2–o
It for another chest	o– 2–6
It I was to pay him for my ffather agust 24 (55)	o– 5–7"

From the foregoing accounts it is evident that William Buell was by trade a carpenter.

In the book of Town Accounts, of which mention has been made, there is entered for a few years the annual rate or tax. Against each person's name is given the amount of his property and the tax thereon.

In the Country rate for 1674 appears:

"william Buell 040———0-6-8"

In January 1675 it was necessary "to prepar a ferry rat for James Rising" and the residents of the town were divided into classes according to the property owned by them. The classes were "singul men" 38 names, "only familys" 17 names, "family. 4 oxen" 12 names, "a family Hors 2 oxen" 54 names, and "famyle Hors" 41 names of which the third was "w. buell".

In September 1675 a "Country Rate" of 6 pence on the pound was laid and among the taxpayers we find

	list	rat
"william Buell	041	1-0-6"

In January 1676 a Country rate was levied of 1^{s} 6^{d} on the pound and Buell was assessed at £34 with a tax of £2-11-00.

In June 1676 the residents of Windsor donated funds for the benefit of the war sufferers in the neighboring colonies. This subscription list was entered in the Mathew Grant Record. Among the persons contributing were:

"Sara Buell siluer 0—1—0
. . . . . .
William Buell 0—1—3"

The statement has been made in this sketch that William Buell and William Filley bought from William Thrall two pieces of land, one of eight acres and the other of thirty-six acres. On folio 248 of original volume 1, Windsor Land Records, is entered a conveyance made October 31, 1681, by William Buell to his son Samuel of the Thrall lands. It was stipulated in the deed that Samuel was not to make sale of the property until after the death of his mother, the wife of the grantor.

"William Buell Dyed, November the 23^{d} day at night, 1681."

Thus reads the entry on page 40 of volume 1 of Births, Marriages and Deaths, of the town of Windsor.

In the inventory of his estate, taken November 30, 1681, the date of his death is given as November 16, 1681, one week earlier than that entered on the Town Records.

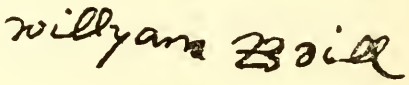
It is impossible to determine now when the entry on the Town Records was made, but as the inventory of his estate was

taken in the month he died, it would seem as if the date of his death as given in that document was more likely to be correct than the one on the Town Records which may not have been put on the books until some time afterward.

His will, dated July 26, 1681, was not presented to the Hartford County Court until sometime in March 1681-2, more than three months after his death, when it was proved in order to be recorded. By this document he gave to his sons Samuel and Peter his home-lot and to the former the house thereon. The lands bought of William Thrall were given to Samuel and the woodlot given by the town was devised to Peter. His tools he divided between his two sons.

Out of their legacies Samuel was to pay eleven and Peter six pounds, which with the rest of the personal estate the testator directed should be divided equally among his daughters except that Mary was to have five pounds more than the others. He also made provision for his wife in case she should outlive him.[5]

It will be noticed that he lived not quite four months after the date of this will and had evidently become quite infirm, as he made his mark to the document instead of signing his name. That he could write is proven by the fact that there is preserved in the Connecticut State Library, in volume 1 of "Towns and Lands", document 130, a petition dated May 9th, 1672, from a number of the Windsor inhabitants regarding the title to land on the east side of the Connecticut River. Among the names signed to this document appears that of William Buell.



An inventory of his estate was taken November 30, 1681, and was presented to the County Court with the will. The total value of the estate was given as £147–12–10.

Some of the items were:

House and Homestead	£40–00–00
3 acres in the Great Meadow	18–00–00
40 acres of woodland bought of William Thrall	15–00–00

[5] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 51, reverse end, p. 72, and Probate Files, William Buell estate.

30 acres of woodland given by the town	12–00–00
10 acres in the woods at Gravel Hill	6–00–00
5 acres at Mill Brook	2–10–00
"Joyntrs tools beetle & wedges"	5–07–06
"grindstone timber and other thinges"	1–19–10[6]

At the same time that the will and inventory were presented to the Court there was also offered an agreement for the division of the estate, dated March 6, 1681-2, and signed by the sons Samuel and Peter Buell.

The wording of this last document shows that there had been differences between the two sons in regard to their father's property, which doubtless accounts for the delay in probating his will.

The agreement divided between them the real estate and provided that they should share equally in the payment of the legacies.

Though in some of its details it was not strictly in accordance with the will, apparently no objections were raised and it was accepted by the Court evidently as a final settlement of the estate.[6]

Mary, widow of William Buell, made her will at "Winser: Agust: y^e: 29: 1684", in which she referred to herself as "bing uery weeck and ny to deth". In this document she bequeathed personal estate only, to her eldest daughter, Mary Mills, her other daughters, Hannah Palmer and Hepzibah Wells, and her grandchildren Mary Palmer and Sarah Palmer.

The inventory of her estate, which is still preserved among the files of the Hartford Probate Court, gives the date of her death as September 1, 1684. The entries on page 41 of volume 1 of Births, Marriages and Deaths, in the Windsor Town Clerk's office, and on page 56 of volume D, Colonial Deeds in the office of the State Secretary, give the date as September 2, 1684. After such a lapse of time it is impossible to decide which date is correct.

Her will and the inventory of her estate were accepted by the Hartford County Court, March 24, 1684-'85, and as there was no executor named in the will, Peter Buell was appointed admin-

[6] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 51, reverse end, p. 73, and Probate Files, William Buell estate.

istrator. The inventory showed property to the amount of £19–15–06, of which £3 was the value of six and one-half acres of land.[7]

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM AND MARY ( ) BUELL

SAMUEL	b. Sept. 2, 1641;[8]	mar. Nov. 13, 1662, Deborah Griswold[11] and lived in Killingworth, Conn.
MARY	" Sept. 3, 1642;[8]	" Feb. 23, 1659, Simon Mills[12] of Windsor and Simsbury, Conn.
PETER	" Aug. 19, 1644;[8]	" 1, Mar. 31, 1670, Martha Coggins.[13] 2, Mercy who died June 4, 1688, aged 22.[14] 3, June 30, 1698, Mary (Gillit) Bissell[15] and lived in Windsor and Simsbury, Conn.
HANNAH	" Jan 8, 1646;[8]	" Sept. 17, 1663, Timothy Palmer[16] of Windsor, Conn.
HEPZIBAH	" Dec. 11, 1649;[8]	" 1, Jan. 12, 1672, Thomas Wells[17] of Hadley and Deerfield, Mass. 2, Feb. 17, 1698-9, Daniel Belding[18] of Deerfield, Mass.
SARAH	" Mar. 21, 1653;[9]	died probably between June 11, 1676, and Aug. 29, 1684.[19]
ABIGAIL	" Feb. 12, 1655;[10]	died probably before her mother as she was not mentioned in the latter's will.[20]

[7] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 105, reverse end, pp. 219, 220, and Probate Files, Mary Buell estate.

[8] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 35, in possession of the Conn. Historical Society, and Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, pp. 2-3.

[9] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 35; Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 2, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 2, folio 157.

[10] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 36, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 157.

[11] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 35; Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 54, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 45.

[12] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 57, and Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 59.

[13] Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, p. 45.

[14] Gravestone inscription in the cemetery on Main street, Simsbury, Conn.

[15] On page 0 of the reverse end of the 'Red Book", the earliest volume of Simsbury Land Records, are entered several marriages performed by Rev. Dudley Woodbridge.

The first marriage is that of Peter Buell and widow Mary Bissell, the date being given as June 30, 1699.

The next entry is a marriage on March 30, 1698-9; then follow eight other marriages at various dates, but all in chronological order, the last one being September 1, 1701.

On page 161 of this same volume is an ante-nuptial agreement dated June 28, 1698, between Peter Buell, Senior, of Simsbury, and widow Mary Bissell, in which Buell states that he is "now to be speedily married (God's Providence permiting) to my Well beloued and espoused Marry Bissell".

Two days later, or June 30, 1698, he made an addition to the agreement by which he gave her certain personal property. On page 18 of the printed copy of the Simsbury Church Records, kept by Rev. Dudley Woodbridge, is an entry of the baptism on March 12, 1698-'99, of "Miriam Buell", "peter buel daughter".

In view of all these facts it is evident that the Town Clerk erred in entering the marriage as on June 30, 1699, when he should have written June 30, 1698.

See also page 4, reverse end of the "Red Book", Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 8, p. 30, Jacob Bissell estate.

[16] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 64, and Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 60.

[17] Hatfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, folio 70.

[18] Deerfield, Mass., Town Records, vol. 2, p. 241.

[19] Sarah Buell was a contributor to the fund raised in June, 1676, for the neighboring colonies, and as this Sarah was the only person in Windsor of that name known to be living at that date, she must have been the contributor.

In her mother's will, made Aug. 29, 1684, there was a bequest to Sarah's sister, Mary Mills, of a "hat which was sarahs", indicating that Sarah was then dead.

[20] Albert Welles in his History of the Buell Family, 1881, p. 31, states that Abigail died in Windsor, Nov. 16, 1681, but no evidence can be found on the Church, Town or Colonial Records, to substantiate his statement.

THE FAMILY OF

RICHARD SAXTON or SEXTON

A person by the name of RICHARD SEXTON, aged 14 years, was one of the passengers from the port of London that "imbarqued in the Blessing, John Lester M[r]", in July 1635, "to be transported to N. England" having "brought Cert: from the Minist[r]s & Justices of their conformitie in Religion, & that they are no Subsedy Men."[1]

Mention has been made in other sketches of the Mathew Grant Church Record of Windsor, Connecticut.

On page 86 of this manuscript is this entry:

"agust. 17. 1639. m[r] Hweit and diuers others came up from ye bay to windsor to settell."

This refers to Reverend Ephraim Huit who had recently emigrated from England, having been "sometime Preacher at Roxall (Wroxall) in Warwickshire."[2]

In December 1639 he became associate pastor of the church in Windsor and died there September 4, 1644.[3]

Following the inventory of his estate, taken October 9 of that year, is a list of debts owing to and from him.

Among them is this item:

"Richard Sexton oweth me 16[l] and for the 2 yeeres to come."[4]

This undoubtedly refers to the subject of this sketch, who was presumably a resident of Windsor at that time, but whether or not he was the emigrant of 1635 remains to be determined.

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[1] Mass. Historical Society Collections, series 3, vol. 8, p. 271; New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 14, p. 321, and Hotten's Lists of Emigrants to America, p. 108.

[2] From the title page of his book "The whole Prophecie of Daniel Explained", published in London in 1644.

[3] Henry Wolcott, Jr.'s, shorthand manuscript volume in the Conn. Historical Society, and gravestone in ancient cemetery, Windsor, Conn.

[4] Colonial Records of Connecticut, original manuscript vol. 1, p. 100.

On page 69 of the Mathew Grant Church Record is this item:

"Richard Saxton marryed sara Cook. Aprell. 16. 164 "

The final figure in the year is so faded as to be illegible. In volume 1, page 61, of Births, Marriages and Deaths in the Windsor Town Clerk's Office the date of marriage is given as April 16, 1647.

The question of Sara Cook's parentage remains unsolved.[5]

The record of Saxton's lands appears on folio 44 of the original first volume of Windsor Deeds. There is no date to the entry but the handwriting is that of Bray Rosseter, the first Town Clerk, who left the town about 1652.

The first piece is described thus:

"Richard Saxton hath Purchased the howselott of Michaell Tryes wth the howse & eyther there appurtenances in valuation halfe an acre more or lesse. bounded by the land of Matthyas SentJohn south west by the land of William Hill, northwest. & there is in breadth sixe rodd. by the streete south east & is there in Breadth seuen rodd. north east by a highway: foreuer."

This homestead was on the west side of the street in the Palisado, a little north of the ancient burying ground.

The other pieces mentioned in the record were:

A piece on the east side of the Great River, bought of Begat Eggleston, ten rods wide and three miles long.

Three pieces bought of Richard Weller: one his home-lot of five acres, another of one and one-half acres on the opposite side of the highway, and the third of thirty acres on the north side of the riverlet.

Two acres bought of Isaac Sheldon, adjoining the William Rockwell homestead, besides two and one-half acres bought of William Hannum.

Eight other pieces of land are recorded to him on folio 149 of the same volume.

The Windsor Records state that the wife of Michael Try died May 19, 1646,[6] and it has been already shown that Saxton

[5] Nathaniel Cook of Windsor was an appraiser of her estate. Savage in his Genealogical Dictionary of New England, vol. 4, p. 32, conjectures that she may have been Nathaniel's sister but no evidence to connect them has been discovered.

[6] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 51.

married April 16, 1647. It is suspected that this Try homestead became his first residence, and that here he spent the early years of his married life.

The entry of the Saxton lands on the Colony Records is in the handwriting of William Andrewes, an early resident of Hartford, who was chosen Town Clerk in 1651, and who began about this date to transcribe the returns of the Town Clerks on to the Colony Records.

The Saxton lands are entered on page 131 of the Windsor section of volume 2 of Colonial Land Records.

It is significant that the descriptions of the Try homestead and of the three-mile tract bought of Begat Eggleston do not appear in the Colony record, indicating that Saxton had disposed of them before 1651 or 2.

Seventeen pages later, or on page 148 of the same volume, there is an entry in the handwriting of William Andrewes showing that Saxton had sold the Try homestead to Thomas Parsons.

In July 1655 Saxton bought of the widow of Samuel Pond the latter's homestead of twelve acres.[7] This was probably Saxton's last residence. It was on the west side of the Tunxis River, only a few rods from his former home, the Michael Try property. As will be seen later, his widow in April 1664 sold the greater part of it, consisting of nine acres, to Thomas Barber.

The Windsor Town Votes, which are extant from 1650, do not indicate that Saxton held any public office. As plaintiff or defendant he was interested in six cases, involving small sums, which were tried in the Particular Court from March 1650 to March 1661.[8]

On page 69 of the Mathew Grant Church Record is written

"Richard saxston dyed. maye 3. 1662."

A similar entry appears on folio 55 of volume 1 of the Colonial Land Records in the office of the State Secretary.

September 11, 1662, an inventory of his estate was presented to the Particular Court and administration granted to his widow.[9] The appraisal of the estate was made June 3, 1662, and showed the total value of the property to be £107–14–00.

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[7] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, original vol. 1, folio 149.

[8] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, pp. 3, 4, 19, 91, 92, 146, 149, 150, 154.

[9] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 179.

Among the items are these:

"Inpmis we finde due on bill from Jonathan Gillett
a hundred and tenne pound of hops
ffrom ffrancis Ackerton by bill - - - 01–10–00
ffrom will: williams on bill for a Cowe forty barrels:
ffrom Jonathan Gillett junjr due to ye estate: - 01–00–00
ffrom Edward messenger for 2 Ancors of Liquors and 2 Barrels of cyder } 12–00–00
ffrom James Enos 2 barrels of cyder only the estate to finde barrels - - - - 01–08–00
Howse orchard & homelott valued at 20–00–00
nine Acres of Land part of it planted by Indians at halfes valued at 18–00–00
A little spott of land about a quarter of an Aker wth some Apple trees on it valued at 02–00–00
A muskett and sword valued at 01–05–00
Land at podung supposed to be his 18–00–00[10]

On the original inventory is this list of

"The next relations to Richard Saxton
Sara his widow
children
Sara daughter of age 14 years and halfe
John son 12 years and halfe
Mary daughter 10 years and halfe
Richard son 7 years and halfe
Patience daughter 3 years and upward"

The Court does not seem to have passed any order regarding a division of the estate.

On folio 207 of original volume 1 of Windsor Land Records is an entry dated April 4, 1664, showing the sale to Thomas Barber by widow Sarah Saxton of a nine-acre home-lot, bounded north on land of William Buell, east on the top of the bank by land of John Williams, south by highway and west by land of Samuel Buell.

Mention has been made that on page 69 of the Mathew Grant Church Record are entries of the marriage of Richard Saxton, the births of his children and his own death.

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[10] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 167, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Files.

Immediately following the entry of his death is this entry:

"his wife sara dyed. Juen. 13. 1674"

"the Widow Saxton Dyed and was buried June: 13th 1674"

reads an entry on page 50 of the first volume of Births, Marriages and Deaths of the town of Windsor.

An inventory of her estate was taken July 8, 1674, by Mathew Grant, John Moore, Senior, and Nathaniel Cook. This was sworn to August 30, 1674, by John Sexton and Mary Sexton, before Benjamin Newberry, Commissioner.

The principal items in the inventory were:

	£
"Dwelling house and land 1½ acres	24–00–00
2 acres on the east side of the highway, on it George Sanders has built a house	2–00–00
East side of Great River aboue nameneck 12 rods wide, 3 miles long - - - - - -	5–00–00
5 acres at podung - - - - - -	8–00–00
Bought John Pettibone's right in 10 acres granted him by the Town, not laid out	1–10–00"
The rest of the estate consisted of live stock and furniture, making a total valuation of	69–19–00
Debts due from the estate	04–08–00
Balance for distribution	65–11–00

As in the case of her husband, a list of the heirs was entered on the inventory.

"Legatees,
John Saxton, eldest son 25 years, 4th of next March
Richard Saxton, second son 20 years old, 1 of next March
Sara Saxton, but married, born March 26, 1647
Mary Saxton married to George Sanders, born Feb-, 1651
Patience Saxton of age 16 years, 28 next January"[11]

This inventory was presented to the Hartford County Court September 3, 1674, and administration was granted to the eldest son, John Saxton. At the same time a distribution of the estate was ordered by the court: to John, eldest son, £25–01–00; to Richard, second son, £13. The eldest daughter was to have £10 and the two youngest daughters £8–15–00 each, to be paid at marriage or when of age.[12]

[11] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, reverse end, p. 125, and Probate Files, Sarah Saxton estate.

[12] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 143.

CHILDREN OF RICHARD AND SARAH (COOK) SAXTON

SARAH	b. Mar. 23, 1647;[13] probably mar. Oct. 1668, Robert Roath[19] of Norwich, Conn.	
	or	
	Mar. 26, 1647;[14]	
JOHN	" Mar. 4, 1649;[15]	" July 30, 1677, Mary Hill[20] and lived in Simsbury, Conn.
MARY	" Feb. 27, 1651;[15]	" before July 8, 1674, George Sanders,[14] supposedly of Windsor, Conn.
RICHARD	" Mar. 1, 1654-5;[15]	died Dec. 19, 1675,[21] in King Philip's War.
PATIENCE	" June 28, 1658;[16]	mar. before Jan. 24, 1688, John Roberts[22] of Simsbury, Conn.
	or	
	Jan. 28, 1658;[17]	
FRANCIS	" Jan. 1, 1661;[16]	died May 6, 1662.[23]
	or	
	Jan. 17, 1661;[18]	

[13] Mathew Grant Church Record, original p. 69; Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 34, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 2, p. 156.

[14] List of children on inventory of the estate of widow Sarah Saxton, July 8, 1674, Hartford, Conn., Probate Files.

[15] Mathew Grant Church Record, original p. 69; Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 34, and list of children on inventory of the estate of widow Sarah Saxton, July 8, 1674, Hartford, Conn., Probate Files.

[16] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 34.

[17] Mathew Grant Church Record, original p. 69, and list of children on inventory of the estate of widow Sarah Saxton, July 8, 1674, Hartford, Conn., Probate Files.

[18] Mathew Grant Church Record, original p. 69.

[19] In the list of children given on the inventory of widow Sarah Saxton's estate is this entry: "Sarah Saxton but married, born March 26, 1647". As this inventory was taken by three Windsor men one of whom was Mathew Grant, the Town Clerk, the words "but married" would seem to indicate she was not living in Windsor when the appraisal was made in July, 1674. If she had been a resident, the name of her husband would have been known to the Town Clerk especially to such a man as Grant. It is therefore inferred that she was the Sarah Saxton whose marriage to Robert Roath of Norwich is entered on page 2 of the original first volume of Births, Marriages and Deaths of that town.

[20] Mathew Grant Church Record, original p. 77; Windsor, Conn., Births Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 61, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 46.

[21] In an old unpaged book of accounts in the Town Clerk's office, Windsor, is this entry: "Agust. 5. 75 Town puder deliuered to Those sent forth". Then follow the names of ten persons, each of whom received "on Pund of pudr" also the names of three men, each of whom had "a pund of bollets".

The second name in this last list is "richard saxston".

On page 47 of volume 1 of Births, Marriages and Deaths in Windsor, is written "Here I Set down the Deaths of Several parsons, that were against the Indians, and were wounded that they dyed, it was on the 19th: of December, 1675. Corpr[1]: Samuel Marshel, Edward Chapman Ebenezer Dible, Nathanael Pond, Richard Saxton".

[22] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. 3.

[23] Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 55.

THE FAMILY OF

SIMON BEAMON

William Pynchon, the founder of Springfield, Massachusetts, and his son John were extensively engaged in trade with the inhabitants of that and other towns. Fortunately for the antiquary, their account books have been preserved and a study of them reveals many interesting facts. In them, the names and places of residence of persons living outside of Springfield are given, but, in the case of persons living in the town, their names only appear.

The earliest of these account books is preserved with the Judd papers in the Forbes Library at Northampton, Massachusetts, and on page 172 we find this entry:

"Symon Bemon
the 26 May 1648",

with the following articles charged to him, which were such as we might expect a bachelor to purchase:

"1 y^{d} blew stocking cotten	0–2.8
1 p^{r} whit cotten stockings	0. 2.4
1 wast coote	0. 7.0
2 Doz ½ pewter buttons	0 0 8½
1 shurt	0. 4.6
1 pr high eeld Shoes 10	0. 4.6"

Prior to 1653 we have no knowledge of his occupation. In that year we discover that Mr. Pynchon sold him

"12 awle blades	00 01.00
6. awles	00 02 09
2. hides of sole leather at 30.^{s} p hide	03.00.00
1. hide of vpper leather	01 07 00"

Immediately following the charge for "awle blades" is this credit:

"Rec^{d} by what is due to Symon for seruice
frō May till ye 29th of Sept^{br}
for wch tyme I was to allow him 04 16 00"

From December 1653 there are a number of entries in the books where Mr. Pynchon has given him credit for making and mending shoes, proving that he had by that time learned the trade of "cordwainer" or shoemaker. Mr. Pynchon also sent him out of town on his business on "voyages to Pequot", "down the falls", etc.

In the latter part of 1654 Mr. Pynchon charged him for

"a sword	15[s]
3[l] Sope	00 03 06
for yo[r] dyet. 30. weekes at. 4[s] p weeke	06 00 00"

This account was balanced December 13, 1654, when there was due Mr. Pynchon the sum of £17–11–05.[1]

On folio 14 of original volume 1 of Springfield Births, Marriages and Deaths is found this entry:

"Symon Beaman Joyned in marriage to Alis young the. 15. day of. y[e]. 10. mon:— 1654".

Immediately after this date he bought of Mr. Pynchon,

"1 peck of Salt	20[d]
1 pint of vinegar	00 00 04½
1 m of Pins	00 01 04"[1]

These charges look as if Simon and his bride went at once to housekeeping.

Other charges were:

"more for an Iron pot & pot hooke	00. 08. 06
an old frying pan	00. 03. 00
To 1[lb] powd @ 3[s] 9[d].	00 04 05
4[lb] flint at 2[d] p lb	
Tobacco Tongs	00 01 00"

About 1664 Simon was credited

"By 1 d getting Timber for Boards for y[e]	
house of correction as p ( ) acct	00 02 00"[2]

On folio 57 of the "Record of Possessions" it is stated that

"Symon Beamon is posessed of a hom lot by purchase from Reice Bedortha containing Three acres more or less 10. rod broad 48. rod

[1] Pynchon Account Book, "No. 2", pp. 144, 234, City Library, Springfield, Mass.

[2] Ibid., "No. 2", p. 234; "No. 4", pp. 40, 41, and "No. 5", p. 13.

long, fronting against ye way to ye wharfe bounded east by Tho: Miller, west by John Dumbleton

"Also Three acres of Hasoke meadow opposite to ye east side of ye Hom lot

"Also of a wood lot of foure acres 8 rod broad & 80 rod long:
Recorded Novemb^r^ 17th 1653".

An entry on the margin shows that he sold the wood land to John Pynchon in May 1654 and his home-lot with the "Hasoke Meadow" to Samuel Terry in March 1656.

In February 1653 he received "by ye grant of ye plantation" a three-acre home-lot, three acres of wet meadow and a four-acre wood-lot, all of which he sold to John Pynchon October 4, 1654.[3]

At a town meeting held "Novemb^r^. 9th 1657", there was

"granted liberty to Symon Beamon to dig a sellar to worke in for this winter in ye Towne lot ꝑvided he fill it vp againe in ye spring:"[4]

It is possible that owing to his pinched circumstances, Beamon was forced to resort to a cave or cellar in which to ply his trade as shoemaker.

"May. 17th. 1656."

. . . . . .

"There is granted to Rowland Thomas, & Symon Beamon neere Skepmuck on this side of chikkuppy river.

"To Rowland Thomas first in ye Neck. 18. acres & to Symon Beamon 12 acrs And w^th^out ye neck Just by to Rowland Thomas. 4. acres & to Symon. 4 acres. This land in ye Neck fell short & so is abated to each of y^m^ as in ye Record:"[5]

1661.

"At a meetinge of the Selectmen: March: 12th. 1662./"

. . . . . .

"Theres granted to Symon Bemon 6 acres of land at Skipmuck for a house lott neere his own land in ye neck provided it be so laid out as in the judgm^t^ of the Select men it doe not prejudice the laying out of other house lotts in those lands thereabouts"[6]

"Decemb^r^ ye 8th 1664./."

"At a Meeting of the Comittee for graunting of lands w^th^in this Township:

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[3] Record of Possessions, folio 57, City Clerk's office, Springfield, Mass.

[4] Springfield, Mass., Town Records, vol. 1, p. 160.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 148, and Record of Possessions, folio 57.

[6] Springfield, Mass., Town Records, vol. 1, pp. 222, 223.

. . . . . .

"Theres also grannted unto Symon Bemon ffourteene acres of Land joyning to his 6 acr lott at Skipmuck: provided his 6 acr lott be ordered to lye as the Measurer & Thomas Miller (appoynted by the Comittee) shall determine who are to lay it soe as y^t^ other lotts that may be given there be not hindred of conveniences of water:"[7]

In addition, the town on January 5, 1665, granted him eight acres adjoining and also

"fiue or Sixe acres of meddow over Chikkuppy riuer beyond Jeremy Hortons meddow, ye best meddow he can find neere it on this side of stony Brooke".[8]

At several later dates he received further grants of land in various parts of the town.

In the early days of the colonies the subject of seating or "dignyfying" the meeting house was of great importance. Committees were appointed by the town and persons were seated according to their social rank, age, and value of their taxable property. The work was probably never done without criticism on the part of some of the persons to whom seats were assigned. In some instances the town refused to accept the report, discharging the committee and appointing a new one.

December 23, 1659, "the selecht men and Decon Chapin" seated the Springfield meeting house and the report of their work was entered on the Town Records.

To the "8th seate" were assigned

"Symon Bemon Tho: Noble James warrinar francis peper Obediah: miller: Nath Burtt"[9]

A new assignment of seats was made "ffebr. 23. 1662", when of the previous occupants of the "8th seate", "Symon Bemon" was the only person who was reassigned to that seat, the others according to the new arrangement being: "Jer: Horton: Jo. Bag: Jo Riley and Abell Wright".[10]

For more than two centuries the duty of seeing that fences were properly maintained devolved on persons known as "fence viewers", who were yearly appointed, and generally at the annual town meeting when other officials were chosen.

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[7] Springfield, Mass., Town Records, vol. 1, pp. 252, 256.

[8] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 15, 16.

[9] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 270.

[10] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 271.

"ffebr. 13th. 1670"

"At A meeting of ye Select men .....

.....

"Veiwers of ffences for ye yeare ensueing were now chosen & apointed as followeth:

.....

"Jeremy Horton & Symon Beamon for Skeepnuck & chikkupy feild for this side of ye River."[11]

There is no record of his having taken the freeman's oath and his name does not appear among

"The names of the ffreemen in Springfield this prsent 8th of May 1663."[12]

In this list there are only twenty-six names, probably about one-third of the "admitted Inhabitants", as shown by a list made in February 1664.[13]

There is no record of the date of his death. His name appears among the names of those who died in 1675 and 1676, the precise date not being given.[14]

On the Pynchon account books, before referred to, the last charge against him was

"Aug 17 1675 To 2d ½ lead 00 01 01"[15]

This was but a short time before the burning of the town by the Indians, on the morning of October 5, 1675, when some of the inhabitants were killed and a large amount of property destroyed.

The devastation was so appalling by the destruction of a large number of houses with their contents and other property, that it is not surprising to find the Town Records very incomplete for that period.

On folio 182 of volume 1 of the Hampshire County Probate Records appears this entry:

"Alce Beaman ye Relict of Simon Beaman Senr of Springfeild Deceased Exhibited to this Corte September 26 1676 An Inventory of ye Estate of her late Husband Deceased to which she made Oath which is on

[11] Springfield, Mass., Town Records, vol. 2, p. 87.

[12] Pynchon Court Record.

[13] Springfield, Mass., Town Records, vol. 3, p. 38.

[14] Springfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, folio 49.

[15] Pynchon Account Book, "No. 5", pp. 13, 14, City Library, Springfield, Mass.

ffile with ye Recordes of this Co^r^te & Power of adminestration upon ye sayd Estate is Granted to Alce Beaman & Simon Beaman her Eldest Son./"

The inventory showed the property to consist of

House and land at Skipmuck	£50
2 acres over the way	2
Shoemaker's tools	0– 7– 6

Live stock, furniture, etc., making a total of £84–15–06.[16]

There is nothing further on the records regarding the settlement of this estate.

"At the Gen^ll^ Town Meeting: Feb:^r^y: 3^d^: 1679:"

. . . . . .

"At this meeting the Town being desirous to accomodate the poor widow Beamon wth some Land to set an house vpon, did appoint & order that the Two Deacons wth Sam^ll^ Marshfeild, should veiw the Towns Highwayes & comons, to see where they may wth most conveniency to her & lest inconveniency to the high ways & passages lay to her about a quarter of Acre to set a building vpon, & accordingly to set out to her so much:— or to Treat wth Jno Holyoke for a peice of his land, & to buy or purchase it of him, If he Likes to sel:"[17]

"At a Town Meeting called by the Select Men.
March: 13. $16\frac{8}{9}\frac{1}{2}$

. . . . . .

"And whereas sundry persons after written were absent frō this meeting, & there is a Town order that al Inhabitants (that may vote in Town Meetings) as shal be absent frō such Meeteing or depart their frō wth out Leave, or w^th^out good ground of such absence allowed of by the select men wth in one weeke, shal be found Six pence p peice

"It was voted & concluded that the six pence fine for those persons vnder writ. should be gathered by the Select men & Improved to pay Widdow Beamons Rate or rates that are vnpaid so far as those fines wil reach: The persons so absenting wore as followes. Abel wright, Henry chapin, Jno Bag, Jno Riley, Sam: Marshfeild. Joseph Leonard Sam^ll^ Terrey, Serj^t^ morgan, Leiut Stebbein, Tho: Stebbein, Jno Clarke, Deacon Parsons, John Harman, Anth^o^ Dorchester, Ensign Cooley, Quart^r^m^r^ Colton, Ephr: Colton, Tho: Colton Sam^ll^ Ely, Luk Hitchcocke, Jno Warner, David Morgan Jose: Stebbein".[18]

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[16] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, folio 182.
[17] Springfield, Mass., Town Records, vol. 3, pp. 187, 188.
[18] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 108.

The statement is made on page 145 that the last charge against Simon Beamon on the Pynchon account books was August 17, 1675.

Immediately following this account is one with "Wid Beamon" which ran from December 6, 1676, to March 17, 1689-'90.

April 6, 1683, she and Mr. Pynchon had a balancing of accounts, when she presented a bill for services rendered to him by her sons. This showed that in 1682 Daniel, Thomas, Josias, and Benjamin worked for him.[19]

On folio 99 of original volume 1 of Springfield Births, Marriages and Deaths, we find that

"Allice Bemon of Springfield widow was sick and died October 5, 1708".

She and her husband Simon were probably buried in the graveyard at the foot of Elm street on the bank of the "Great River" in Springfield.

About 1840 the remains and gravestones in this yard were removed to make way for the Hartford and Springfield railroad. Most of the bodies taken from this ground were removed to the Springfield City Cemetery. There does not appear to have been any grave marks for this couple and their present place of burial is unknown.

January 23, 1706-7, Simon Beamon the younger, then a resident of Deerfield, conveyed to his brother Benjamin Beamon all his interest in his deceased father's lands at Skipmuck in the town of Springfield.[20]

Josiah Beamon of the town of Brookfield on January 4, 1713-'14, and Samuel Beamon of the town of Windsor, Connecticut, on March 29, 1717, sold all their interest in the estate of their father Simon to their brother Benjamin of Springfield.[21]

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[19] Pynchon Account Book, "No. 5", pp. 13, 14, City Library, Springfield, Mass.

[20] Old Hampshire County, Mass., Deeds, vol. C, p. 605.

[21] Ibid., vol. C, p. 606.

CHILDREN OF SIMON AND ALICE (YOUNG) BEAMON

SIMON	b.	lived in Deerfield, Mass.; left a will dated Feb. 16, 1711-'12, which was probated Mar. 5, 1711-'12, providing for his wife Hannah, brothers, Daniel and Samuel, and nephew Simon, son of brother Josiah.[29]
JOHN	" 2m., (Apr.),12d., 1657;[22]	nothing further known of him.[30]
DANIEL	" 1m., (Mar.), 1d., 1658;[23]	lived in Springfield, Mass., and died about Aug. 3, 1741. Administration on his estate was granted to his nephew, Capt. Joseph Miller, Aug. 11, 1741. May 8, 1750, his real estate was ordered set to Joseph Miller and he to pay the children of Daniel's deceased brothers, Samuel, Josiah and Benjamin, and deceased sisters, Ruth Miller, Abigail Baldwin and Mary Miller.[25]
THOMAS	" 10m., (Dec.), 29d., 1660;[23]	was living in 1682.[31] Nothing further known about him.
JOSIAS or JOSIAH	" Feb. 4, 1662;[24]	mar. 1, Martha who died Nov. 29, 1691.[32] 2, Apr. 29, 1696, Lydia Warner[33] and lived in Brookfield, Mass.
SAMUEL[25]	"	" May 10, 1693, Margaret Chapman.[34]
RUTH[25]	"	" Apr. 9, 1685, Samuel Miller[35] of Springfield, Mass.
MEHITABLE	"	died Aug. 16, 1670.[36]
BENJAMIN	" Aug. 20, 1671;[26]	mar. Dec. 14, 1710, Hannah Huggins[37] and lived in Springfield, Mass.
DAUGHTER	" June 11, 1673;[27]	nothing further known about her, unless she was one of the two last named daughters whose births are not recorded.
ABIGAIL	" about 1675;[28]	" May 15, 1694, Obadiah Baldwin[38] of Milford, Conn.
MARY[25]	"	" John Miller[39] of Springfield, Mass.
ALICE	"	" Nov. 22, 1705, Nathaniel Baldwin[40] of Milford, Conn.

[22] Springfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, folio 9.

[23] Ibid., original vol. 1, folio 10.

[24] Ibid., original vol. 1, folio 11.

[25] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 6, folios 113, 237; vol. 7, folio 252, and Probate Files, no. 40, box 12.

[26] Springfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, folio 22.

[27] Ibid., original vol. 1, folio 24.

SAMUEL BEAMON and his wife MARGARET of Windsor, Connecticut, on March 29, 1717, sold to Benjamin Beamon of Springfield, Massachusetts, all their interest in the estate of Simon Beamon, deceased, of Springfield.

Also on April 26, 1734, Samuel Beamon of Simsbury, Connecticut,

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[28] Gravestone in the old cemetery, Milford, Conn.

[29] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 3, p. 264.

[30] The statement is made in Burt's First Century of Springfield, Mass., vol. 2, p. 527, that John married Abigail Eggleston. The original first volume of Springfield Births, Marriages and Deaths, folio 19, contains a record of the marriage of this couple on Oct., 29, 1696, stating that they were "both living at Enfield."

On pages 9, 11 and 13 of vol. 1 of Enfield, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, are entered the births of Benjamin, Abigail and John Bement, children of John and Abigail Bement. In vol. C, p. 596, vol. D, p. 195, vol. F, p. 320 and vol. G, p. 485, of Old Hampshire County Deeds at Springfield, are entered deeds from these three whereby they conveyed their interest in lands of their father, John Bement, Junior, and grandfather, John Bement, Senior, both deceased.

On July 24, 1682, only twenty-five years after the birth of John Beamon, son of Simon of Springfield, John Bement, Senior, and his son, John Bement, Junior, were each granted a home-lot in Enfield (Enfield, Conn., Committee Book, p. 370, or History of Enfield, Conn., 1900, vol. 1, p. 132).

These facts prove that the Beaman or Bement family of Enfield was not descended from Simon Beamon of Springfield.

[31] Pynchon Account Book, "No. 5", p. 14, City Library, Springfield, Mass.

[32] Springfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, folio 54.

[33] Ibid., original vol. 1, folios 54, 19.

[34] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 54.

[35] Springfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, folio 17.

[36] Ibid., original vol. 1, folio 49.

[37] Ibid., original vol. 1, folio 111.

[38] Pynchon Court Record and Old Hampshire County, Mass., Deeds, vol. I, p. 658.

[39] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 7, folio 252, Probate Files, no. 40, box 12, and Springfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, folios 45, 61.

[40] Springfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, folio 108, and Old Hampshire County, Mass., Deeds, vol. I, p. 658.

"Son of the Wid[w] Beamon Late of Springfield in the County of Hampshire In New England Deceased",

disposed of his interest in lot number 4 in the 3d or lower division of the Outward Commons on the east side of the Connecticut River in Springfield.

These conveyances show that Samuel Beamon, son of Simon and Alice (Young) Beamon, removed to Windsor, Connecticut.[41]

There is no known record of his birth, but in the decree for the division of the estate of his brother Daniel, Samuel is named before Josiah and is therefore supposed to be older than the latter, who was born February 4, 1662-3.[42]

On page 54 of the present first volume of Births, Marriages and Deaths of Windsor, Connecticut, is entered the marriage on May 10, 1693, of

"Samuel Beamond and Margarit Chapman".

She was the daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Fox) Chapman of Windsor and was born March 7, 1672.[43]

Samuel Beamon's first purchase of land in Windsor was October 10, 1698, when he bought from George Hays a house and home-lot of three acres, which was fourteen rods in width, and was bounded, north on land of Sarah Shaw, east on land of John Filer, south and west on highway. In the deed, his occupation is given as that of cooper.[44]

His first official position to which he was elected in December, 1703, was that of Surveyor of highways; in December 1708, '09, '11, '13, 14 and '15, he was chosen Packer; in 1711, '13, '14 and '15, Sealer of weights, also in the last two years, Sealer of measures.[45] March 8, 1704-'05, he was appointed Packer for the town of Windsor by the Hartford County Court.[46]

In May 1709 the General Assembly took measures with regard to the raising of 350 men as Connecticut's quota of the troops sent from the colonies against the French in Canada.

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[41] Old Hampshire County, Mass., Deeds, vol. C, p. 607 and vol. G, p. 384.

[42] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 7, folio 252, Probate Files, no. 40, box 12, and Springfield, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, folio 11.

[43] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 41.

[44] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 356.

[45] Windsor, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 2, folios 92, 104, 105, 108, 112, 113, and vol. 3, p. 3.

[46] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 6, p. 259.

Samuel Beamon was one of the men in that expedition and in July 1713 there was ordered paid to him £8–16s–1d.

"which is in full of his wages in the expedition to Wood Creek in the year 1709."[47]

September 12, 1716, Samuel Beamon and his wife Margaret released to Ebenezer Williams of Simsbury a one-half interest in certain property purchased by said Williams of Margaret's sister, Elizabeth (Chapman) Strickland,[48] and the same day he bought of said Williams for £95 the latter's house and home-lot in Scotland Parish in the town of Simsbury, besides seven other pieces at Turkey Hills, "Bare Hill", on the east side of the mountain and elsewhere.[49]

March 14, 1719-20, as a resident of Simsbury, he sold to William Mitchell of Windsor, his homestead of four acres in the latter town. In the deed it is stated that the property was located at Hosford's Hill.[50]

In January 1722-3 the town of Simsbury apportioned some of the undivided lands among its inhabitants and Samuel Beamon received one hundred and twenty acres as his share.[51]

October 9, 1717, he purchased of Samuel Allyn of Windsor three acres of land at Scotland lying between his previous purchases.[52]

February 4, 1722-3, he sold to Samuel Strickland of Simsbury eighty-six acres at Turkey Hills in that town.[53]

At a session of the Hartford County Court, held June 17, 1718, "Sam[ll] Beamond of Symsbury" was licensed

"to Entertain Strangers & Travellers and Retail drink to them in Symsbury".[54]

At a town meeting held in Simsbury January 5, 1719-'20, Samuel Beamon was admitted an inhabitant of the town and at the same meeting he

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[47] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 5, pp. 91, 390, 392.
[48] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, vol. 4, p. 112.
[49] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 175.
[50] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, vol. 4, p. 256.
[51] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 3, p. 24.
[52] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 195.
[53] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 262.
[54] "Court Records, Hartford, 1718-1736", unpaged, Watkinson Library, Hartford, Conn.

"was chosen hourd and poun keeper fo Scotland or the East Sid of the mountains".

December 19, 1721, and December 28, 1727, he was chosen Grand Juryman; December 29, 1730, he was chosen Surveyor of highways.[55]

The Simsbury Town Records do not contain any entry of the death of him or his wife.

March 6, 1742, administration on his estate was granted by the Hartford Probate Court to his son, Samuel. An inventory of his estate was made and in the document it is stated that he

"Deceased this Life September 1741".

The total value of the estate was £773–05–02 of which £640–10–00 was in real estate.[56]

May 5, 1747, William Enos, Junior, of Simsbury petitioned the Probate Court stating that he had purchased the home-lot and buildings belonging to the estate of said Beamon and requested that the widow Margaret Beamon might have her dower in the premises set out to her. Nothing seems to have been done in answer to Enos's request, for July 18, 1752, "Margeret Beman the Rellict of Sam[ll] Beman late of Scotland in Symsbury", requested that her dower be set out, which the Court ordered to be done.[57]

Nothing was done in compliance with this Court order, probably because of the following entry on the records of the Wintonbury (now Bloomfield) Congregational Church under date of August 18, 1752:

"Dyed the widdow Beman aged about 82 years".

On the Simsbury Land Records between March 26, 1743, and April 17, 1759, are a number of deeds given by the children of Samuel Beamon whereby they divided portions of the property among themselves and conveyed some of it to other parties.[58]

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[55] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 3, pp. 11, 19, 43, 50.

[56] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 13, p. 111, and vol. 14, reverse end, p. 28.

[57] Ibid., vol. 15, p. 38, and vol. 16, p. 69.

[58] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 7, pp. 33, 144, 223, and vol. 8, p. 343.

December 19, 1744, Caleb Moses and wife Hannah, Jonathan Case and wife Mary, Lemuel Roberts and wife Abigail, all of Simsbury, sold to Thomas Adams and Williams Roberts, 2d, also of said town, two pieces of land, the first of ninety-six acres in the second division and the other lot 93 in the third half mile tier. It is stated in the deed that the property belonged to their father, Samuel Beamon, deceased, of Simsbury.[59]

February 27, 1746-7, Ephraim Adams and wife Ruth of Simsbury signed a document in which they acknowledged to have received of her brother, Samuel Beamon of said town, her full share of the estate of her father, Samuel Beamon, deceased.[60]

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL AND MARGARET (CHAPMAN) BEAMON

(The order of birth of these children is uncertain)

HANNAH	b. Apr. 2, 1698;[61]	mar. Sept. 15, 1726, Caleb Moses[62] of Simsbury, Conn.
MARY	"	" May 10, 1721, Jonathan Case[63] of Simsbury, Conn.
ABIGAIL	"	" Nov. 7, 1731, Lemuel Roberts[64] of Simsbury, Conn.
SAMUEL	" June 6, 1704;[61]	" Nov. 30, 1731, Sarah Pinney[64] and lived in Simsbury, Conn.
RUTH	"	" May 5, 1726, Ephraim Adams[62] of Simsbury, Conn.
MARGARET	"	died Aug. 12, 1715.[65]

[59] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 7, p. 135.

[60] Ibid., vol. 7, p. 536.

[61] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 6.

[62] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 3, p. 251.

[63] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 258.

[64] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 233.

[65] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1704-1846, folio 42, "B, Deaths."

THE FAMILY OF

EDWARD CHAPMAN

The earliest information regarding EDWARD CHAPMAN of Windsor, Connecticut, is found on page 41 of the Church Record made by Mathew Grant, the famous Town Clerk and land surveyor of that place.

It reads:

"Edward Chapman married elizabeth fox in Ingland".

Probably the marriage took place as early as 1660.

The records of the Particular Court of Connecticut show that March 5, 1662-3, Edward Chapman was sued by Richard Fellows for a debt of £6.[1]

Fellows was a resident of Hartford from 1643 to 1659, locating in Hatfield, Massachusetts, about 1661.[2]

Chapman must have been living in New England some little time prior to this suit to have become indebted to Fellows to the extent of his claim.

Various records indicate that Henry Clark, a prominent citizen and land owner of Windsor, removed to Hadley, Massachusetts, about 1661.[3]

Later in this sketch it will appear that Chapman's wife was the niece of Henry Clark.

There is no evidence that Chapman owned any real estate in this country and it is surmised that on his arrival in Windsor he went to live on the Clark homestead, to take charge of the property in the absence of the owner.

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[1] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 189.

[2] History of Hadley, Mass., by Sylvester Judd, 1863, p. 492.

[3] He was elected one of the Magistrates or Assistants, May 16, 1661 (Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 304), but he does not appear to have been present at any session of the Court of Assistants after that date. It is therefore inferred that he removed to Hadley, Massachusetts, shortly after May, 1661.

It is not known that he had any occupation other than that of husbandman.

He took the freeman's oath at "a Court of Election held at Hartford May 9th, 1667", and his name appears in a "list taken of all the freemen that liue within the limits of Windsor", dated "Octobr 11th 1669."[4]

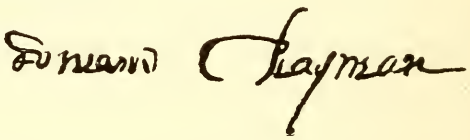
At a town meeting held March 14, 1673-4, he was chosen Fence viewer for that part of the town which lay north of the river.[5]

The General Court of Connecticut made a grant of land on the east side of the Connecticut River, within the bounds of Windsor, to Benjamin Newberry and others.

Many of the inhabitants of the town thought this an injustice to the plantation, as all the lands within its limits belonged to the inhabitants in common.

A remonstrance, signed by a large number of the inhabitants,[6] was presented to the General Court at the May session of 1672.

Edward Chapman was one of the signers of this document, from which we copy his autograph.[6]



In 1675 the colonial authorities took measures for the protection of the inhabitants from the Indians in what has since been known as the "King Philip War".

August 5 of that year fourteen men from Windsor were ordered to Springfield and the following day twenty-five "dragoones" were ordered "raysed" in the town

"to be in readiness upon an hower's warning for a march; whoe are to haue their armes well fixed and fitted for seruice."[7]

In a volume of Windsor town rates and expenses is a copy of a warrant, dated "Hartford Decembr 15. 1675", for the collection of a tax of 12 pence on the pound amounting to £675 to defray the indebtedness of the colony.

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[4] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 57, 58, 519.

[5] Windsor, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, folio 32.

[6] Towns and Lands, vol. 1, document 130a, Conn. State Library.

[7] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 345, 346.

The collector was authorized to receive the rate or tax in wheat at 5 shillings per bushel, pease at 4 shillings, Indian corn at 3 shillings, beef at 40 shillings per barrel and pork at £3. The collector was not to receive more than one-half of the tax "in flesh" and the remainder in grain.

Following the warrant is a statement of the debts to be paid from the proceeds of the tax. Among the items is this:

"To m^rs^ chapman for hir husband on indian warr acount 05–08–07"

On page 47 of volume 1 of the Windsor Births, Marriages and Deaths is this entry:

"Here I Set down the Deaths of Several parsons, that were against the Indians, and were wounded that they dyed, it was on the 19th: of December, 1675. Corpr^l^: Samuel Marshel, Edward Chapman Ebenezer Dible, Nathanael Pond, Richard Saxton."

This battle, the famous "Narragansett swamp fight", was at North Kingston, Rhode Island, in which six captains and one hundred and fifty men of the colonial forces were killed or mortally wounded.

The following petition is document 147 in volume 1 of "War" in the Connecticut State Library. There is no endorsement on the original to show whether any action was taken in response thereto, and an examination of the manuscript journals of both houses of the General Assembly for the May and October sessions of 1718 and the printed Colonial Records for a longer period, fail to reveal anything on the subject.

"To ye Hon^ll^ Assembly now Siting In hartford, may 8th: 1718"

"The Humble Supplication of Simon Chapman of Windsor

That Wheras, my Hond father Deceased; Edward Chapman; was a volunteer in the old Warr and fitted himself with arms amunition &c on his own Cost, and at the Swamp fight was Killed, and never any of his armour, or Cloathing Returned; he Left a family of Small Children under great necessities, one Wherof is now a Criple and So Will be all his days; Doth Therfore pray the bounty of this Assembly that they would, Grant to your petitioner, 150 acres of Land where it maybe found without prejudice to any former Grant; In behalf, of s^d^ Lame Heir as well as my Self Who; am your Hon^rs^, Humble Servt

Simon Chapman"

Notwithstanding the fact that Edward Chapman was killed in this war "widow chapman" is credited as having given "£0–10–6" to

"ye uollintarie contrebution mad for ye Poor in wanths in other collonyes. upon a motion sent to This collony of conecticot it was don Juen. 11. 76."[8]

An inventory of Chapman's estate was presented to the Hartford County Court, March 2, 1675-6, and his widow was appointed administratrix.[9]

The inventory was taken in February 1675-6 and showed that the property consisted wholly of personal estate of the value of £184–10–00.[10]

On the original inventory appears the following:

"The relaciones to this estat are
Elizabeth his widow
his Sonn Henery Chapman. 12. years ould last July
his Daughter mary 10. yers. last october
his Daughter Elizabeth. 8 yers. last Janury
his Sonn Simon. 6. yere last Aprell
his Daughter Hanna. 5. yere nixt may
his Daghter margret. 3. yere nixt tusday
his Daughter Sara born last may".[11]

March 1, 1676-7, a distribution of the estate was ordered, to the widow £61, to the eldest son £30, to the other son £18 and to each of the five daughters £15; the sons to receive their shares when twenty-one years old and the daughters when eighteen.[12]

As shown earlier in this sketch, Henry Clark, one of the settlers of Windsor and a prominent man in the colony, removed about 1661 to Hadley, Massachusetts, where he died December 23, 1675.

He left a will dated December 30, 1672, to which he added a codicil eight days before his death. In the former we find the following:

"And as for y^{t} Portion of outward estate wch ye Lord in his fatherly mercy hath Blessed me withall I doe dispose of it as Followth My house & Barn at Windsor togeather with ye outhouseing Orchard, Home lott & all my other Land in Windsor on ye West side of Coniticutt of w^{t} sort soeever wheather Meadow or upland subdued or unsubdued with all y^{e}

[8] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 91.

[9] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, p. 152.

[10] Ibid., vol. 3, reverse end, p. 155, and Probate Files, Edward Chapman estate.

[11] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Edward Chapman estate.

[12] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, p. 161.

Privelleges Appurtenances & imunities thereto belonging I doe freely & whoely give to my Loveing & beloved Sister Margaret Fox & to her Daughter Elizabeth Chapman after her decease & to her heirs forever.

"It. I give to my Sister Fox & her Daughter Chapman abovenamed one half of my Lott on ye East side of ye River in Windsor except two acres of the plow Lott next Goodman Gun and to run through ye upland which two acres alsoe if my sister or her Daughter doe within one twelve month after my Death Pay or cause to be payd ye Sum of ten Poundes in wheate & Pees unto John Karrington of Farmington shall be theirs as ye rest of y^t^ half. But if ye ten Poundes be not soe payd to ye sayd John Karrington then ye sayd two acres shall be to him in Leiu of ye sayd ten Poundes & too his heirs forever with the Privileges & Appurtenances thereto belonging wch ten Poundes I account wth Respect to a Cow of mine & an oxe in ye handes of Edward Chapman on these termes ye one half of y^t^ Lott, or ye one half except two acres Runing from ye River to ye upland shall be to my Sister and after her to my Kinswoeman Elizabeth Chapman & her heirs forever togeather wth all ye Priveledges imunities & appurtenances thereto belonging".[13]

On folio 254 of the original first volume of Land Records of Windsor is entered

"for record ye perticklar parcells of land that are ye Widow elisabeth chapmans by her vnckell m^r^ Henery clarks last will, that ly one ye west sid of ye great riuer"

"first all ye howsing and howse land with ye pastuer be low ye banke ye pastuur bounds extendes by ye meadow way in bredth by ye way. thirty fiue rodd, ye bredth of ye howse land againest ye Town streat is twenty seuen rodd and halfe, which bounds it westerly. northerly it bounds by ye howse land and pastuer of georg Phillups from ye town street down to ye medow way in length forty two rodd, sutherly ye pastuer bounds by ye pastuer land of ye widow marshall up to ye top of ye banke an therr bound westerly by (hirhows?) fenc seuen rodd. widow chapmans howsland bounds sutherly by ye howse land of widow marshall in length from ye streate to ye brow of ye bank fifteen rodd, ye holle quantity as it is expreist is eyght acors and half acor more or less."

She also received from her uncle three pieces of land in the Great Meadow of seven, eleven and three and one-half acres, four acres in the Pound Close, also thirty-seven acres of woodland and swamp in three tracts.

She had probably been living on the Clark property from the time of her arrival in Windsor.

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[13] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, p. 164.

Following the record is this certificate.

"These may certefie y^{t} these parcells of land aboue spetified to Elizabeth Chapman now Elizabeth Cross she stands possest of them in her owne right & y^{t} they may be confermed to her & her heirs for ever accordingly to law we haue here signed to this record this 9th of Aprill 1684

Benjamin Newbery Comission^{r}
Henry Wolcot Regist^{r}.
Thomas Stoughton".

June 19, 1677, Elizabeth Chapman conveyed to Return Strong and Thomas Bissell of Windsor all of her husband's estate then in her possession, to be held by them in trust for her children, reserving to herself the use of the same until the children were of age.

The same day, by another deed, she conveyed, as the document reads,

"unto my children that now I haue & those that god Shall giue me"

all the real estate willed to her by her uncle; to be divided among her children immediately after her death by the overseers Thomas Bissell and Return Strong. The names of the children are not given in the deed.[14]

The Mathew Grant Record, before referred to, shows that "elizabeth chapman wido" was admitted to the Windsor Church April 22, 167(7?), and on [ ] 29, 1677, probably one week later, her seven children were baptized.[15]

"Samuel Cross and Elizabeth Chapman, Widow, that was wife of Edward Chapman were married July: 12th: 1677".[16]

On pages 104 and 105 of volume 2, of the Windsor Land Records, are entered documents whereby Henry Chapman on April 20, 1687, Mary Chapman on May 7, 1686, Elizabeth wife of Joseph Strickland on April 19, 1686, and Hannah wife of Mathew Grant on January 22, 1692, acknowledged receipt from their "father-in-Law Samuell Cross", of their respective shares of their deceased father's estate.

In the receipt from Mary Chapman to Samuel Cross she also acknowledged the payment of

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[14] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, original vol. 1, folio 255.

[15] Mathew Grant Church Record, pp. 17, 28.

[16] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 55, and Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 41.

"ye Legasy given to me from my Grandmother foxe together wth what was due to me for ye time I haue bin serviceable to him since my minorety".

On page 180 of the reverse end of volume 7 of the records of the Hartford Probate Court is entered the will of Captain Samuel Cross of Windsor, which was made July 31, 1707. Immediately following on the record is an inventory of his estate. In the heading of the inventory the statement is made that he died November 5, 1707.

In the will Captain Cross gave to his wife Elizabeth the life use of his homestead and ten acres of other land.

He also left legacies to a number of his relatives which were not payable until one year after the death of his wife.

April 13, 1719, Simon Chapman as administrator, with the will annexed, filed his account on the estate, in which he showed the payment of the legacies specified in the will.[17] These facts would seem to prove that widow Elizabeth (Fox) Chapman Cross died prior to April 1719.

There is no gravestone now extant to her memory in the ancient graveyard of Windsor and her place of burial is unknown.

CHILDREN OF EDWARD AND ELIZABETH (FOX) CHAPMAN

HENRY	b. July 4, 1663;[18]	mar. May 11, 1692, Hannah Grant[22] and lived in Windsor, Conn.
MARY	" Aug. 23, 1664;[19]	died June 30, 1665.[23]
MARY	" Oct. 27, 1665;[20]	unm. May 7, 1686.[24]
ELIZABETH	" Jan. 15, 1667;[21]	mar. Dec. 11, 1684, Joseph Strickland[25] of Hartford and Simsbury, Conn.

[17] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, p. 100, and Probate Files, Samuel Cross estate.

[18] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 7; Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Edward Chapman estate; Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 41, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 54.

[19] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 41, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 54.

[20] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Edward Chapman estate; Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 41, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 55.

[21] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Edward Chapman estate, and Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 41.

[22] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 55.

[23] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 89, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 55.

SIMON b. Apr. 30, 1669;[21] mar. Sarah [26] and lived in Windsor, Conn.

HANNAH " May 3, 1671;[21] " Oct., 1690, Mathew Grant[27] of Windsor, Conn.

MARGARET " Mar. 7, 1672;[21] " May 10, 1693, Samuel Beamon[28] of Windsor and Simsbury, Conn.

SARAH " May 24, 1675;[21] living Mar. 1, 1676-7.[29]

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[24] Windsor, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 105.

[25] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 61, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. D, p. 54.

[26] Gravestone in the old cemetery, Windsor, Conn.

[27] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 57.

[28] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 54.

[29] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, p. 161, order of distribution, Edward Chapman estate.

THE FAMILY OF

MARGARET FOX

MARGARET FOX of Windsor, Connecticut, was the sister of Henry Clark, a former resident of that town and later of Hadley, Massachusetts, as is proved by his will made December 30, 1672, from which we quote:

"And as for y^{t} Portion of outward estate wch ye Lord in his fatherly mercy hath Blessed me withall I doe dispose of it as Followth My house & Barn at Windsor togeather with ye outhouseing Orchard, Home lott & all my other Land in Windsor on ye West side of Coniticutt of w^{t} sort soeever wheather Meadow or upland subdued or unsubdued with all ye Privelleges Appurtenances & imunities thereto belonging I doe freely & whoely give to my Loveing & beloved Sister Margaret Fox & to her Daughter Elizabeth Chapman after her decease & to her heirs forever.

"It. I give to my Sister Fox and her Daughter Chapman abovenamed one half of my Lott on ye East side of ye River in Windsor except two acres of the plow Lott next Goodman Gun and to run through ye upland which two acres alsoe if my sister or her Daughter doe within one twelve month after my Death Pay or cause to be payd ye sum of ten Poundes in wheate & Pees unto John Karrington of Farmington shall be theirs as ye Rest of y^{t} half."[1]

While this shows that the maiden name of Margaret Fox was Clark, the Christian names of her parents and husband are unknown. It is surmised that her husband died in England and that she came to this country with her son-in-law Edward Chapman.

In the will of Henry Clark, just mentioned, are legacies to Hannah and Mary Loomis, daughters of Thomas Loomis of Windsor.

Appended to his will is a codicil dated December 15, 1675, in which appears this clause:

"Further more as an addition to what is above expressed my will is to give to ye two Daughters of *my Kinsman** Thomas Loomas all my

[1] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, p. 164.

* The italics are ours.—F. F. S.

Brass & Pewter to be equally devided between y^m except my warming Pann which I have given to m^r Russell Ju^r. & ye Andirons I have given to Deacon Tilton."[2]

It should be noted here that Henry Clark in his will made another bequest "to *my Kinswoeman,** Elizabeth Chapman",[2] who was his own niece.

On folio 159 of volume 2 of the Connecticut Colonial Land Records is entered the marriage on November 1, 1653,[3] of Thomas Loomis and Hannah Fox, "both of Windsor".

Their children were:

Thomas, born October 29, 1654,[4] died in infancy.
Thomas, born March 17, 1655.[4]
Hannah, born February 3 or 8, 1657-8.[5]
Mary, born January 16, 1659.[4]

Hannah Fox, the wife of Thomas Loomis, died April 25, 1662.[6]

From these facts it is conjectured that Thomas Loomis's wife was a daughter of Margaret Fox.

Mrs. Fox's daughter Elizabeth married in England, presumably about 1660, Edward Chapman.

As Hannah Fox, the supposed sister of Elizabeth (Fox) Chapman, married at Windsor in 1653, Thomas Loomis, she is surmised to have been older than Elizabeth.

Possibly Hannah came to this country to live with her uncle Henry Clark, who is not known to have had any children, or came out with him at the time of his emigration.

The "wido Fox" was admitted to full communion in the Windsor church in "Jun" 1671.[7]

"Ye ould wido ffox m^r Henery clarks sister dyed aprl. 13. 1673".[8]

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* The italics are ours.—F. F. S.

[2] Hampshire County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 1, p. 164.

[3] This marriage is also given in the Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 54.

[4] Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 22, and Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 54.

[5] Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 2, folio 161; Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 22, and Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 54.

[6] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 54.

[7] In the list of admissions to the church as entered on page 17 of the

CHILDREN OF	AND MARGARET (CLARK) FOX	
HANNAH (supposed daughter) b.	mar. Nov. 1, 1653,	Thomas Loomis[9] of Windsor, Conn.
ELIZABETH (known daughter) "	" 1,	Edward Chapman[10] of Windsor, Conn.
	2, July 12, 1677,	Samuel Cross[11] of Windsor, Conn.

Mathew Grant Church Record, in which appears the name of widow Fox, the figures for the year of admission are worn off in her case and in a number of others.

The three entries on this page which include the names preceding and following hers read thus:

"mary Saxton & baptized [ ]
ye wido fox Jun [ ]
nathanl Winchls wife Ag [ ]

On page 97 of this Grant Record is a list of the church members who were living December 22, 1677.

These entries appear there together:

"mary saxston aprel 1671
nat wincls wif agust 1671".

The dates here refer to the time of their admission to the church.

As the name of widow Fox was entered between the names of Mary Saxton and Nathaniel Winchell's wife in the list of admissions on page 17 of the Grant Record, it is evident that she was admitted to the church in June, 1671.

[8] Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 58.

[9] Ibid., vol. 2, folio 159, and Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 54.

[10] Mathew Grant Church Record, p. 41.

[11] Ibid., p. 41, and Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 55.

THE FAMILY OF

JOSEPH WOODFORD

Joseph Woodford "came from England to Farmington, Conn., at the age of 17, about the year 1664," is a statement made in the Steele Genealogy.[1]

This work is based on the researches of Doctor Avery J. Skilton of Troy, New York, but the authority for the above statement is not given and cannot now be ascertained.

The name of Joseph Woodford appears in a list of ten, evidently all Farmington residents, who were ordered by the General Assembly of October 1663

"to stand for their [ ] at the Court in May next, for their freedome."

And among the records of the May 1664 session is this entry:

"This Court orders .....that those of Farmington have the oath of freedom administered to them by Mr. Hawkins; This Court having accepted of the persons presented by the Deputies of the aforesaid towns, as freemen."[2]

His name appears in a list "of the Freemen in Farmintowne", which was made October 12, 1669, and reported to the General Assembly held the same month.[3]

On page 18 of the present first volume of Farmington Land Records appears this entry:

"ffebuary ye 4 1666"

"Land: In: ffarmington: in ye Jurisdicktion: of Conekticut belonginge To Joseph: woodford: &: his: heighrs: for ever:"

"Viz: One psell: a hows: Loot Which he: bought of matthew webster: Contayning by estimatiō five: Acers: bee It more or Less: on which: his dwelling hows Now standeth with yards: gardens orchards wood or vnderwood ther on standing or Therin being butting to ye South: on the: high: way Leading into ye meadow: & North on Land bellonging to William Lewis & to ye west on thomas Newels: hows Loot: & to ye East on William Lewis Land Which he bought of andrew Warner:

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[1] A Genealogical History of John and George Steele, 1862, p. 15.

[2] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 409, 412, 413, 425, 427.

[3] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 521.

"One: psell: of Land: ye one: pt giuen: him: by the toune: ye other: pt bought of William: Corby: Lying on the East side of ye River against Nood: Land: Abutting: to ye East & North: on: m^r hawkins: Land: & A brooke: to ye South: & to ye west on ye River:"

The statement in the record of the last piece that it was given him by the town, refers to a vote of the town made in January 1663 whereby William Corby, Joseph Woodford, John Warner, Junior, and John Root, Junior, were "granted the land on the plain between Mr. Anthony Hawkins land and the Brook laying against Nodd."[4]

Joseph Woodford received sixteen acres in the grant made by the town January 18, 1670, of lands at the "Great Swamp" to sundry of the inhabitants. For a full record of the conditions of this grant the reader is referred to the sketch of the Bird family.

At the annual town meeting held in December 1685 he was chosen Chimney viewer, in December 1692 Surveyor of Highways, and one year later he was appointed to the same position in case Thomas North declined.[5]

March 21, 1698-9,

"the town granted vnto Joseph Woodford Senr a Liberty to Retaill strong drink according to Law".[6]

There is no record at Farmington of Joseph Woodford's marriage.

The inventory of and the agreement for the settlement of the estate of Thomas Newell of Farmington, which was made November 7, and 8, 1689, show that three of his children were Rebecca Woodford, aged 46; Hester Stanley, aged 37, and Samuel Newell, aged 28.[7]

January 9, 1700, Joseph Woodford, Senior, of Farmington conveyed to his "brother John Stanly" also of Farmington, lands which he had purchased of James North.[8]

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[4] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, p. 31.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 29, 49, 61.

[6] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 83.

[7] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 5, reverse end, pp, 13, 14, and Probate Files, Thomas Newell estate.

[8] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 3, p. 128.

Furthermore, as will be shown later, Joseph Woodford, in his will, appointed his "Loueing Brother Samuell Newell" one of the overseers of his estate.

These facts prove that Joseph Woodford married REBECCA NEWELL, daughter of Thomas Newell of Farmington, and that she was born about 1643.

"Joseph Woodford's wife" is mentioned as one of the persons who "are in full Communion in the Church in Farmington, March 1, $\frac{1679"}{1680,}$ and he was admitted to membership March 14, 1692-'93.[9]

Thus far the compiler has been unable to find any record of the death of Rebecca (Newell) Woodford. On page 160 of volume 3 of Farmington Land Records is the copy of a deed dated March 29, 1700, from Joseph Woodford, Senior, of Farmington, conveying land to "my Well beloved Daughter Hannah Now ye Wife of Thomas North".

The property was given

"more especially for her Reward for her Loue Labor & Care to her mother In her Sore & long sorrow."

From the wording of this deed, it is inferred that Rebecca, wife of Joseph Woodford, had died prior to the date of this document. There is also no record of Joseph Woodford's death. On page 171 of volume 3 of the Farmington Land Records is the copy of a deed dated February 1, 1708, and acknowledged March 11, 1709, from Joseph Woodford, Senior, to John Stanley, Senior, of two acres of land at Nod, with the frame of a house partly covered standing thereon. This proves that Woodford died after this date.

November 6, 1710, there was presented to the Hartford Probate Court his last will and testament,[10] of which the following is a copy:

"Farmington December y^e^: 10th (1701)"

"The Last Will and testament of Joseph Woodford Senr of farmington in ye County of Hartford & Collony of Cone[cticut] in New england"

"In ye Name of God Amen,

[9] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 12, pp. 35, 36, 37.
[10] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 8, p. 21.

"I ye afore: [said] Joseph Woodford Senr being grown Aged and Infirm in [my limbs] & not knowing how soon ye time of my departure out [of] this World may Come and being att this time in the possess[ion] of my Right Reason for Which I desire to bless God All[mighty] & do farther desire to Committ my Sole to god that gaue it & into the hands of Jesus Christ my mercifull Redeemer: and my body [after] death to a Christian buriall decently to be intered in the ear[th] and as to that Little Estate of this World's goods that god hat[h lent] me for his glory & my Comfort I do dispose of as followeth

"First I giue vnto my dafter mary Bird Sixteen pounds in curant p[ay]
"2 Ly I giue to my dafter Rebeckah portter fifteen pounds ten shil[lings]
"3 ly I giue to my dafter hester Bird twenty pounds
"4 Ly I giue to my dafter Sarah Bird twenty pounds
"5 Ly I giue to my dafter Hannah North tweny pouns
"6 Ly I giue to my dafter Elizebeth Woodford thirty pounds
"7 Ly I giue to my dafter Susannah Woodford thirty poun[ds]
"8 Ly I giue to my dafter Abigail Woodford thirty pound[s]

"moreouer I do declare it hereby to be my Will that my t[hree] youngest dafters Namely Elizebeth Susannah & Abigaill Wo[odford] haue my houshold Stuffe amongst them Except any of them [Shall] marry before my deceas and if so then what they shall [receiue] or any of my dafters shall Receiue of me in my Life ti[me] shall be accounted as part of their aboue mentioned Leg[acees] and if in Case any of my dafters shall dy before marriag [in] nonage or in testate then their portion shal be deuided am[ongst] the Rest of my Children that shall suruiue them: and a[lso] any of my dafters shall dy and Leaue a child or children th[en] my will is y^t that part of there Legacy which is not paid [shall] descend to there posterety: and whatsoeuer shall Remain of [the] abouementioned portions to my seuerall dafters as is abou[e] Expressed shall be paid by my executor in Curant pay [or as] he and they shall agree and what I shall pay to them [or] any of them hereafter shall be accounted as part of ther[e] aboue mentioned portions.

"Lastly I giue to my son Joseph Woodford all ye Rest of my Estate [whome] I appoynt whole & sole Executor of this my Last will & te[stament] & I desire my Loueing Brother Samuell Newell & my Loueing [friend] Es John hart to be ouer seers to this my will vnto which on ye day a[bouesaid] I sett to my hand and seall: those three words being first enterli[ned]

ye mark s of Joseph
Woodford sn^r & seall"

"Signed & sealled in ye presanc of: John Hart Senr, Samuell Newell."[11]

[11] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Joseph Woodford estate, and Probate Records, vol. 8, reverse end, p. 57.

An inventory of his estate was taken October 25, 1710, and was presented to the Probate Court on the same day as his will.

This showed real estate valued at	£170–00–00
and personal estate worth	48–10–06
making a total of	£218–10–06[12]

CHILDREN OF JOSEPH AND REBECCA (NEWELL) WOODFORD

MARY[13]	b.	bap.		mar.	July 3, 1693, Thomas Bird[17] of Farmington, Conn.
REBECCA	"	"		"	Jan. 2, 1695-6, John Porter[18] of Farmington, Conn.
ESTHER[13]	"	"		"	Jan. 2, 1695-6, Samuel Bird[18] of Farmington, Conn.
SARAH[13]	"	"		"	before Dec. 10. 1701, Nathaniel Bird[19] of Farmington, Conn.
HANNAH[13]	"	"		"	Dec. 4, 1699, Thomas North[20] of Farmington, Conn.
JOSEPH[13]	" about 1677,[14]	"		"	Jan. 23, 1699, Lydia Smith.[21]
ELIZABETH[13]	"	"		"	June 11, 1707, Nathaniel Cole[22] of Farmington, Conn.
SUSANNA[13]	"	"	Dec. 3, 1682;[15]	"	June 26, 1707, Anthony Judd[21] of Farmington, Conn.
ABIGAIL[13]	"	"	Dec. 27, 1685;[16]	"	Aug. 8, 1710, Caleb Cowles[23] of Farmington, Conn.

[12] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 8, p. 21, and reverse end, p. 57.
[13] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, will of Joseph Woodford.
[14] West Avon, Conn., Cong. Church Records, unpaged.
[15] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 12, p. 38.
[16] Ibid., vol. 12, p. 148.
[17] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 125, and vol. 3, p. 511.
[18] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 123, and vol. 3, p. 511.
[19] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 511, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 8, reverse end, p. 57, will of Joseph Woodford.
[20] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 145, and vol. 3, p. 160.
[21] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 125.
[22] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 16, 123.
[23] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 125, and vol. 3, p. 512.

Joseph Woodford, only son of Joseph and Rebecca (Newell) Woodford, was born about 1677, as at his death in 1760 his age was given as "about 83".[24]

He married January 23, 1699, Lydia Smith, daughter of Joseph Smith of Farmington.[25]

"Joseph woodford and his wife.....were admited Into ful Communion to partake of the lords Super April Twenty Second 1705", in the Congregational Church of Simsbury.[26]

The Farmington Congregational Church Records show that

"Joseph Woodfurd Junr and his wife Lydea" ..... "came into ye church by letters dismissive from Symsbury", August 16, 1707.[27]

By the will of his father he inherited all of the latter's real estate and he is believed to have resided in that part of Farmington formerly the society of Northington and now the town of Avon.

July 1, 1742, he conveyed to his grandson Roger Hooker, "now living with me", fifty-four acres of land in the north division of Farmington, adjoining the home-lot of his son Joseph Woodford, Junior.[28]

He conveyed, "by way of portion," to his sons lands at Nod in the town of Farmington as follows:

January 20, 1742-3, and October 27, 1744, to Samuel, a tract of one hundred acres, besides other pieces, the acreage of which is not given.[29]

May 19, 1744, and April 6, 1748, to Joseph, Junior, one hundred and five acres, besides other lands.[30]

May 19, 1744, January 31, 1744-5, and March 8, 1747-8, to John, sixty-three acres.[31]

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[24] West Avon, Conn., Cong. Church Records, unpaged.

[25] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 125, vol. 6, p. 220, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, p. 98, Joseph Smith estate.

[26] "Rev. Dudley Woodbridge, his Church Record at Simsbury in Conn., 1697-1710", p. 17.

[27] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 38, p. 279.

[28] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 6, p. 327.

[29] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 400, and vol. 7, p. 78.

[30] Ibid., vol. 7, pp. 60, 331.

[31] Ibid., vol. 7, pp. 60, 97, 316.

October 21, 1744, to William, one hundred and sixty acres, with the buildings thereon, of which he reserved the life-use of one-half.[32]

Feb. 7, 1744-5, he deeded, for the consideration of £40, to his "brother in law", John Northway, five and one-quarter acres also at Nod.[33]

There is no record of the death of Lydia, wife of Joseph Woodford, but the Farmington Land Records show that she was living in May 1722,[34] and she is believed to have been the mother of all his children.

On page 198 of the third volume of Simsbury Town Acts is this entry:

"Joseph Woodford of Farmington & the widow Sarah Garrat of Simsbury were Married february: 14th 1744/5".

Widow SARAH GARRAT was the daughter of John and Sarah (Pettibone) Mills of Simsbury and was born November 5, 1696. She married first Samuel Tuller, second Francis Garrat and third Joseph Woodford.[35]

Joseph Woodford died February 7, 1760, aged "about 83",[36] leaving the following will:

"In the Name of God Amen"

"I Joseph Woodford of ffarmington in Hartford County being in Competent health and of sound mind and memory, Calling to mind the mortallity of my body knowing that tis appointed to all men once to dye, doe make this my last will & Testament. and first I giue my soul to god that gaue it and my body to the earth to be buryed at the disscristion of my Christian friends. and as Touching that worldly estate where with it has pleased god to bless me in life I giue & bequeath as followeth—first my will is that all my Just debts be well and duly paide by my Executors hearafter named

"Itim to my beloued wife Sarah woodford my will is and I giue to her one feather bed with furniture besides one third part of my moueable estate after my debts are payed which I giue to her and her heirs for euer—also I giue her the use and improuement of one third part of my houseing and lands during the term of her naturall life

[32] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 7, p. 78.

[33] Ibid., vol. 7, p. 102.

[34] Ibid., vol. 4, p. 57.

[35] Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. 5; Town Acts, vol. 2, p. 27; vol. 3, p. 257, and Land Records, vol. 7, p. 544.

[36] West Avon, Conn., Cong. Church Records, unpaged.

"Itim unto my four sons—namely Joseph woodford Sam[ll] woodford John woodford and william woodford. besides what I haue giuen to them by deeds of giufts my will now is and I giue to them my aforesd sons Joseph Sam[ll] John & William Woodford all my lands not alread disposed of and my will is that my Son William woodford Shall haue ten aCres of land next to and adJoyning to that I haue given him in the home lott he to take it said ten aCres as part of his proportion of my lands all to be equelly divided to and amongst my aforesd four sons which I giue to them and and to each of them and their heirs forever—

"Itim to my fiue daughters. namely Elizabeth Case: mary north Rebeckah woodruff Sarah woodruff & susanah northway. besides what they haue already Receiued in way of portion my will now is and I giue to them and to each of them fiue shillings old tenour

"Itim: unto my daughter in law. Ann Garritt my will is and I guie to her the sume of forty pounds old tenour which I giue to her and heirs forever—and all the Remainder of my estate wheresoever and whatsoever my will is and I giue all that Remains unto my beloued wife. and to my son william woodford and to their heirs forever to be equelly divided—and I doe hearby Constitute ordain and appoint my beloued wife sarah woodford and my son william wood to be my executors to this my last will and testament

"Signed and Sealled by the said Joseph woodford this twenty and fifth day of March—A—D—1746..and then declared by the said Joseph woodford to be his last will and Testament .....

"In the presence of us
Joseph Hawley— Joseph wood furd" (Seal)
James Gridley—
Timothy North—"[37]

This will, together with an inventory of the estate, dated Feb. 29, 1760, was presented to the Hartford Probate Court April 1, 1760, and his son William qualified as executor. The inventory showed

Real estate valued at	£523–10–00
Notes for money loaned	70–17–08
Household furniture, live stock, etc.	72–01–05
A total of	£666–09–01.[38]

Sarah (Mills) Tuller, Garrat, Woodford, widow of Joseph Woodford, died November 8, 1797, lacking one week of being

[37] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Joseph Woodford estate, and Probate Records, vol. 18, reverse end, p. 159.

[38] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 18, p. 92, and reverse end, p. 128.

101 years old,[39] allowing for the change in the calendar from old style to new.

CHILDREN OF JOSEPH AND LYDIA (SMITH) WOODFORD

LYDIA	b. Sept. 22, 1702,[40] bap.			mar. Feb. 15, 1721-2, William Hooker[48] of Farmington, Conn.
MARY	" June 26, 1704,[40] "			died young.
JOSEPH	" Aug. 22, 1705,[40] "			mar. May 17, 172(8?), Sarah North[49] of Farmington, Conn.
ELIZABETH	" July 22, 1707,[40] "	Aug. 17, 1707;[46]	"	Oct. 4, 1727, Thomas Case[50] of Simsbury, Conn.
MARY	" Mar. 2, 1708-9,[40] "	Apr. 10, 1709;[47]	"	Feb. 27, 1727-8, Isaac North[51] of Farmington, Conn.
REBECCA	" Apr. 22, 1711,[40] "			died May 9, 1711.[52]
SAMUEL	" Mar. 30, 1712,[41] "			mar. Mar. 12, 1734-5, Mary Thomson[53] of Farmington, Conn.
SARAH	" June 4, 1714,[42] "		"	Dec. 19, 1733, Josiah Woodruff[54] of Farmington, Conn.
REBECCA	" May 20, 1716,[43] "		"	May 4, 1738, Joshua Woodruff[55] of Farmington, Conn.

[39] Connecticut Courant, Monday, July 23, 1798.
[40] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 97.
[41] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 98.
[42] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 99.
[43] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 96.
[44] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 84.
[45] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 34.
[46] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 38, p. 277.
[47] Ibid., vol. 38, p. 278.
[48] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 100, and vol. 4, p. 212.
[49] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 13.
[50] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 3, p. 251.
[51] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 4, p. 423.
[52] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 141.
[53] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 539.
[54] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 300.
[55] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 27.

JOHN	b. June 2, 1718,[44]	bap.	mar. Sept. 15, 1743, Sarah Phelps[56] and lived in Farmington, Conn.
WILLIAM	" Nov. 13, 1722,[45]	"	" Oct. 31, 1745, Susanna Garrat[57] and lived in Farmington, Conn.
SUSANNA	"	"	" May 17, 1741, John Northway[58] of Farmington, Conn.

SAMUEL WOODFORD, seventh child and second son of Joseph and Lydia (Smith) Woodford, was born March 30, 1712.[59]

He married March 12, 1734-5, MARY THOMSON, born July 26, 1714, daughter of Samuel Thomson of Farmington.[60]

He resided in Northington Society, now the town of Avon, and was probably a farmer.

January 20, 1742-3, and October 27, 1744, his father gave him lands in Northington Society amounting to over one hundred acres.[61]

He was also a legatee under the will of his father but not surviving the latter the property was distributed to his heirs.

February 14, 1757, "by way of portion", he gave to his son Samuel one acre of his home-lot in Northington Parish, also thirty acres of land in the division north of the Reserved Lands on the east side of the river.[62]

The records of the West Avon Congregational Church show that Samuel Woodford, Senior, died September 18, 1758, aged "about 47".

November 7, 1758, his widow Mary and son Amos appeared before the Hartford Probate Court, presented his will and qualified as executors.[63]

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[56] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 6, p. 305.

[57] Ibid., vol. 7, p. 35, and Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 3, p. 198.

[58] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 6, p. 304.

[59] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 98.

[60] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 70, vol. 5, p. 539, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 13, reverse end, p. 131.

[61] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 6, p. 400, and vol. 7, p. 78.

[62] Ibid., vol. 10, p. 439.

[63] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 18, p. 33.

In this document, which was made May 16, 1758, he referred to himself as being "weak in body".

He gave to his wife Mary one-third of the personal estate absolutely and the use of the house and barn, ten acres of Clay pit pasture and twenty acres of improved land "where she please.....so long as she shall bear my name."

To his eldest son, Samuel, besides the property already given him, there was bequeathed a new dwelling house on land formerly given him, ten acres of land adjoining and one-half of the testator's cooper's tools.

To his four daughters, Mary, Ruth, Rhoda and Hannah Woodford, he gave £24 each, and to his three sons, Amos, Daniel and Solomon, the reminder of the estate. Should another child be born to him after this date, if a son, he should be made equal with the other sons, and if a daughter, she should be made equal with the other daughters.[64]

An inventory of the estate was taken October 11, 1758, and was presented to the Probate Court on the same day as the will.

The total value of the estate was	£503–07–06
of which the house, barn and 176 acres of land were valued at	429–00–00.[65]

In May 1762 the General Assembly granted his widow Mary, executrix under the will, power to sell such of his real estate as might be necessary to raise funds for the payment of his debts, amounting to £19–01–10¾ d. and the expenses of such sale.[66]

The Farmington Records are silent as to the date of the death of Mary, widow of Samuel Woodford.

On the Farmington Land Records are entered a number of deeds given at various dates between August 25, 1764, and May 4, 1772, from Micah Segar and wife Mary, Lemuel Roberts, Junior, and wife Ruth, and Nathaniel Roberts and wife Rhoda, all of Simsbury, to "our mother", Mary Woodford of Farmington, of their interest in lands in Farmington, inherited by them from their father, Samuel Woodford, and their grandfather, Joseph Woodford.[67]

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[64] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 18, reverse end, p. 64.

[65] Ibid., vol. 18, p. 33, and reverse end, p. 65.

[66] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 12, p. 29.

[67] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 13, pp. 464, 465; vol. 17, pp. 200, 201, 201, and vol. 18, p. 7.

June 15, 1776, Mary Woodford conveyed to her son Daniel Woodford of Farmington four acres of land in Northington Society, being part of the land given by Joseph Woodford to the heirs of his son Samuel Woodford, deceased.[68]

December 19, 1783, Solomon Woodford and Mary Woodford, both of Farmington, conveyed to Lemuel Roberts of Simsbury all their interest by heirship or dowry in lands in Northington Society.[69]

March 13, 1784, Micah Segar and wife Mary, Nathaniel Roberts and wife Rhoda, Isaac Blakely and wife Hannah, all of Simsbury, conveyed to Lemuel Roberts of the same town all lands in Northington Parish, not previously sold, which they inherited from their grandfather Joseph Woodford, their father Samuel Woodford and their brother Amos Woodford, all deceased, "reserving the use of the Wid[w] third on any of said land or buildings".[70]

These facts prove that Mary (Thomson) Woodford, widow of Samuel Woodford, died after June 1776 and probably after March 13, 1784.

Children of Samuel and Mary (Thomson) Woodford

Samuel	b. Dec. 20, 1735;[71]	mar. Mar. 15 or 18, 1757, Lucy Thomson[79] and lived in Farmington, Conn.
Amos	" Aug. 22, 1737;[72]	died Dec. 11, 1759.[80] Administration on his estate was granted March 4, 1760, to Mary Woodford, evidently his mother. October 29, 1765, a distribution of his estate among his brothers and sisters was presented to and accepted by the Hartford Probate Court.[81]
Mary	" Sept. 15, 1741;[72]	mar. Dec. 8, 1763, Micah Segar[80] of Simsbury, Conn.
Ruth	" Nov. 4, 1744;[73]	" Dec. 8, 1763, Lemuel Roberts[82] of Simsbury, Conn.
Susanna	" July 24, 1746.[73]	
Daughter	" Aug. 28, 1746.[74]	
Rhoda[75]	"	" Feb. 27, 1763, Nathaniel Roberts[83] of Simsbury, Conn.
Daniel[76]	"	" May 30, 1771, Ruth Thomson,[84] and lived in Farmington, Conn.
Solomon	" Mar. 8, 1751;[77]	living Dec. 19, 1783.[85]
Hannah	" July 22, 1753;[78]	mar. before Mar. 13, 1784, Isaac Blakely[86] of Simsbury, Conn.

[68] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 21, p. 504.
[69] Ibid., vol. 25, p. 169.
[70] Ibid., vol. 26, p. 8.

[71] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 5, p. 8.

[72] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 7.

[73] Ibid., vol. 7, p. E.

[74] This birth is entered in vol. 7, p. E. This page and two or three others immediately following are modern copies of the original, which was evidently badly worn and not now extant. This birth is probably intended for the death of Susanna, of whom we have no further trace.

[75] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, will of Samuel Woodford.

[76] This name appears as that of a son of Samuel Woodford on page F of vol. 7 of the Farmington Land Records, the date of birth being missing in the original record.

[77] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 8, p. 9.

[78] Ibid., vol. 11, p, 590.

[79] Ibid., vol. 11, p. 576, and West Avon, Conn., Cong. Church Records, unpaged.

[80] West Avon, Conn., Cong. Church Records, unpaged.

[81] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Amos Woodford estate, and Probate Records, vol. 20, p. 44.

[82] West Avon, Conn., Cong. Church Records, and Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 4, p. 221.

[83] Simsbury, Conn., Town Acts, vol. 4, p. 221.

[84] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 21, p. 557.

[85] Ibid., vol. 25, p. 169.

[86] Ibid., vol. 26, p. 8.

THE FAMILIES OF

OLMSTEAD and NEWELL

"James Olmstedd" of Essex County, England, was one of the "Men transported to New England" of whom "Capten Mason" on the "xxij Junij 1632", certified that they had "taken the oath of allegeance according to the Statute".[1]

He located in Newtown, later called Cambridge, Massachusetts, and was one of the party that founded the town of Hartford on the Connecticut River. He was a man of property and public spirit, living in Hartford on what is now known as Front Street, but his sudden death in 1640 prevented him from leaving a deep impress on the community.

In his will, which was witnessed "the 28th of September, 1640," appears this sentence:

"And my will is that my sonne Nehemiah shall giue out of his portion ten pownd to my Cossen Rebeca Olmstead that now dwelleth wth me, and he shall pay yt her wthin three yeares after my dicease, and I leaue her to be disposed by Richard Webb and Will' Wadsworth, and as shee shall carry herselfe, yt shall be in their power ether to giue her the tenn pownd or to deteyne yt frō her."[2]

Following the will is a document signed by his two sons, Nicholas and Nehemiah, making further gifts from the estate, one of which was

"to his Kynsmen Richard Olmstead fiue pownd, and to his Kynsman John Olmstead fiue pownd, to be paid vnto them wthin three yeres after his disease."[3]

Richard Olmstead was one of the party which in June 1650 signed a writing agreeing to make a settlement[4] at what was later called Norwalk, Connecticut.

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[1] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 14, pp. 300, 301, and Hotten's Lists of Emigrants to America, p. 150.

[2] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 446-447.

[3] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 447.

[4] Norwalk, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 60.

John Olmstead became a resident of the town of Norwich, Connecticut, where he died August 2, 1686.[5]

Document 2, in volume 4 of "Private Controversies" in the Connecticut State Library, is a certified copy of John Olmstead's will, in which he describes himself as "being aboute the age of sixty yeares". He made his wife Elizabeth sole executrix and gave her the services of the servants until their time should expire. He also made provision regarding his negro servant. The will made no disposition of the real and personal estate, and was not dated.

September 20, 1686, the two witnesses to the will, Christopher Huntington and Thomas Adgate, testified that they heard Olmstead say that he would give his whole estate to his wife to dispose of as she saw fit.

Document 3, in the same volume, is a copy of the will of

"Elizabeth Holmsted of Norwich—Widdow and Relict of my Deare and Loueing husband John Holmsted Deceas^{d}",

which was dated October 15, 1689.

In the document appear these two bequests:

"In the first place from a true and cordiall affection and respect vnto the two sonns of my Deare Husbands Brother Richard Holmsted of Norwalk (viz) Liuetenant James Holmsted and Ens^{n} John Holmsted. I haue before the Date hereof giuen to each of them an allotment at the new plantation lyeing to the Northwest of Norwich, each allotment conteyning by estimation about a thousand acres of Land. . . . and also fourteen pounds in personall estate with eight shillings in money, all which was by them Receiued with thankfull acknowledgement and declaration on their parts that it was farr beyond what they expected."

. . . . . .

"Item: I giue and bequeath vnto the nine children of my brother and sister Nuell of ffarmington: fiue shillings apiece to be payd to them in money after by Decease by my executo^{r}".

As will be shown later, the Newell children were the blood relatives of her husband and not of herself. With the exception of these two bequests, all the property which Elizabeth Olmstead received from her husband she gave to her own relatives, "Richard Bushnell my kinsman" and "my brother Thomas Adgates three children".

[5] "Private Controversies", vol. 4, document 1, Conn. State Library.

Notwithstanding the fact, as stated in this will, that the children of Richard Olmstead of Norwalk had been given far more than they had expected, they did not rest satisfied.

The document following Elizabeth Olmstead's will is an appeal.

"To the Honrd Court of assistants the delegates of the royall maiesty of our nation our great patron and protector of all our rights and properties now sitting in Hartford. the humble petition of James Omstid of Norwake and Samel Newel of ffarmington: sheweth

"That whereas our Naturall and Honrd Vncle John Omstid of Norwitch late deceased. died possessed of a fair estate to the vallue of 923^{ll}. 05^{s}. 06^{d}. in lands and Chattells. and that these your petitioners being the neerest relations of our said Honrd Vncle by blood being his brother and sisters Children".[6]

The appeal set forth the reason why the petitioners thought that they should receive a larger portion of their uncle's property. The case was heard by the Court of Assistants at a term which began October 3, 1695.

"James and John Olmstead heirs of Capt. Richard Olmstead, and Samuel Newell in the behalf of Rebeckah Newell Sister of M^{r}. John Olmstead, being dissatisfyed with the Settlement of the Estate of the s^{d} m^{r}. John Olmstead dec^{d}. made by the County Court at New London, made Application to this Court for relief."

The record further states that the deceased left a will in which he gave to his wife the life use of the whole estate, but made no disposition of the real estate. The court ordered the real estate set to the heirs of said Richard Olmstead and Rebecca Newell.[7]

On page 130 of volume 6 of the Land Records of the Town of Norwich is entered a deed dated April 22, 1697, from "Rebeckah Newell of farmington in the County of hartford and Colony of Connecticutt in New England," in which it is stated that the Court of Assistants held in Hartford, October 3, 1695, found that

"a Great part of the Reall Estate of my beloued Brother John Olmsted late of Norwich deceased belonged to the heirs of my beloued brother Richard Olmsted deceased and to me or my heirs and accordingly have

[6] "Private Controversies", vol. 4, document 4, Conn. State Library.

[7] "Record of Court of Assistants, No. 2", pp. 30, 32, in the office of State Secretary.

Ordered and Settled the same to be: And as for the personall Estate of my Brother John Olmsted being Left to be Settled att the Court of New London. my Eldest Son Being Deceased and my son Thomas Newell refuseing or neglecting to be att Any Charge about the fore mentioned Estate".

Thereupon she did

"giue Grant bequeath allienate passover: and bestow upon my Son Sam[ll] Newell of farmington . . . all my Right Title power Claime in the fore mentioned Estate of my Brother John Olmsted Deceased".

The foregoing documents prove that John Olmstead of Norwich, and Richard Olmstead of Norwalk, were brothers, and that they had a sister Rebecca, who married Thomas Newell of Farmington, and they are presumed to have been the same persons named in the will of James Olmstead of Hartford, in 1640.

There is no known record of the marriage of THOMAS NEWELL and REBECCA OLMSTEAD, but in the document last quoted, Rebecca Newell, in April 1697, referred to her eldest son as being dead, and mentioned her next son Thomas. Furthermore, John Olmstead's widow Elizabeth in her will made mention of the nine children of brother and sister Newell. Thomas Newell had ten children, one of whom, Martha, we have no knowledge of except the date of her baptism.

Rebecca, the eldest child, as will be shown later, was born about January 1643, and presumably named for her mother.

From all the facts it will be seen that Thomas Newell and Rebecca Olmstead were married between September 28, 1640, the date appended to the will of James Olmstead of Hartford, in which he made a bequest "to my Cossen Rebeca Olmstead that now dwelleth wth me," and January 1643, the date of birth of the eldest child, Rebecca.

The earliest possible record known about Thomas Newell is on page 54 of volume 1 of Farmington Land Records, where is entered a deed dated March 26, 1645, whereby William Goodwin of Hartford, "Rulling ellder In the church of Chr there", and John Crow, for £150, conveyed to Thomas Newell "of tunkses sepos" and John Stanley, Junior, of Hartford,

"all our buildings and deuident or deuidents of Land made or to bee made: at tunxes seposs: In the Jurisdiction of Conecticutt aforesaid

"Viz one psell for a hous Loot Contayning by estimā fiue acers bee It more or Less butting on the highway Leading from ye Riuer towards hartford on ye south and on ye other end on Land Now comon to ye Inhabitants of tunxes sepos: on ye south[8] & on m^r^ John hains his Land Esquire on the west and on m^r^ John websters Land on the east with the edifices or buildings:"

The deed also carried the title to two tracts of land in the "Great Meadow", one of one hundred acres and the other of twenty acres.

It will be seen from the foregoing that in March 1645 Newell had become a resident of Tunxis Sepos, and may be considered as one of the settlers of the plantation to which, in December of that year, the General Court gave the name of Farmington.[9]

"On the 13th of October, 1652, Mr. Rodger Newton, Stephen Hart, Thomas Judd, John Bronson, John Coll, Thomas Thompson and Robert Porter, joined in Church Covenant, in Farmington."[10]

"About the 30th day of January 1652, ...John Stanley, Thomas Newell and Thomas Barnes was also, joined to the Congregation."[10]

"July, the 12th 1653. Then Thomas Newell's wife, and John Stanley's wife, and Robert Porter's wife, were joined to the Congregation".[10]

The reader will notice that Thomas Newell and John Stanley made their first purchase of Farmington lands together; that these two men simultaneously joined the church, and that later in the year their wives both joined the church on the same day.

Whether there is any special significance in these facts remains to be proved.

From the records of a "Quarter Court held at Hartford, March 1, 1659-'60", we learn that among the "Constables Sworne" was for "ffarmington Thom^s^ Newell."[11]

At a County Court held at Hartford, March 4, 1668-9,

"This Court frees Abram Randall from training watching & wardeing likewise Thomas Newell & John Roote Senr haue the same priueledg granted them".[12]

Owing to the loss of the earliest records of the town meetings held in Farmington, we have no knowledge of any offices held by Thomas Newell, except as above stated.

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[8] An evident error for north as shown by an entry made in 1648 on the last leaf of volume 1 of the Connecticut Colonial Land Records.

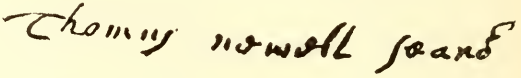
[9] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 133.

[10] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 323.

[11] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 133.

[12] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, p. 83.

On October 9, 1673, the residents of Farmington petitioned the General Court, asking permission to make a settlement at "Matitasooke," now known as Waterbury. A committee from Farmington had already viewed the lands and their report is still preserved.[13] One of the signers of this report was



On page F of the reverse end of volume 1 of Farmington Land Records is an entry which reads thus:

"Thomas Nuell y^e^ aged Deperted this life the thirtenth of september in ye yere One thousand six hundred eighty nine"

November 8, 1689, an inventory of the estate of Thomas Newell, deceased, of Farmington, was presented to the Hartford County Court, and was sworn to by the widow of the deceased; she and Samuel Newell were appointed administrators. There were also presented to the court a statement showing advancements to several of the children, and an agreement regarding a division of the property, which were accepted by the court, and the estate ordered settled in accordance therewith.[14]

"Nouember the 7 C 1689."

"An Inuatory of Thomas Newell senier deseased

bras pauter and tin	020–19–00
cheny earthen ware and hous all irone	005–15–06
In wooden ware In the hows	005–08–06
Beding and bead stedles	026–01–06
wareing clothing	012–04–06
Lining Cheeses with other things	037–12–06
neate Cattell hors sheep & swine	051–10–00
medow land and up land at	248–00–00
teme tackling with othere things & arms	007–16–06
prouision In the hous barn weges & sadles	024–17–00
Corne stillyards fan books and other things aprised by vs	009–12–06
	449–17– 6

John Standly Sr
Samuell Cowles."

[13] Towns and Lands, vol. 1, document 163, Conn. State Library.

[14] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 5, p. 5, and Probate Files, Thomas Newell estate.

"the names and ages of the Children

John Newell	42 years
Thomas Newell	39
Samuell newell	28
Rebecah woodfurd	46
mary bascom	44
esther standly	37
sary smith	34
hanah north	31"

"an acct off the seuerall sum̃s
that the Chilldren of m^{r} Thomas
Newell deseased haue all Ready
Reseaiued out of theire ffather
Estate: before his desease.....

The elldest son John		34–00–00
Thō Newell		65–00–00
Samuell Newell as much as his deed of guift will make appeere		
Rebeca Woodford		30–00–00
Mary Bascom		40–00–00
Ester Stanly	28[1]	28–00–00
Sarah Smith		40–00–00
Hannah North		28–00–00"

"Whereas Thomas Newell off ffarmington Lately deseased dyed without any Will itt is mutually agreed Betwene the widdow off the sayd Newell and all the Chilldren that were present att the County Court when the distribution of sayd Thomas Newells Estate was made uiz The Elldest son John Newell Samuell Newell John Stanly and Thomas North that marryed Two of the daughters Ester and Hannah Newell: that what each Childe hath fforemerly Reseaiued off theire ffather Thomas Newell shall bee Reckned and accounted as partt off theire portions: and with what the Elldest son John Newell hath allready reseaiued hee is to haue a double portion off all the Lands off his deseased ffather off all sorts and Kinds whatsoeuer: and affter the widdows Thirds is taken out off all the personall or mouable Estate: then the Afforesaid Elldest son John Newell agreeth to take up with a single or Equall proportion off the personall estate with his younger Brothers and sisters all which aboue written the Elldest son John Newell doth ffully accept as his ffull portion out off his deseased ffathers Estate Relinquishing any ffurder Claime or Right he now hath or might haue vnto his desesed ffathers estate: out of his naturall Loue and affecktton vnto his other Brothers and Sisters: ffurder The widdow or Rellickt off the said Tho Newell Reserueth the ffull dispose off her Thirds off all the Mouable estate ffor her maintinance:

(Four lines here erased.)

"It is allso agreed By the widdow & chilldren that Rebeca woodford granchilde off the fforementioned Thō Newell that hath Liued seuerall yeares with her granfather & mother shall haue Tenn pounds in Mouable Estate giuene her out off her grandfathers Estate before any other distribution bee made: allso itt is mutually agreed that The sons off the said Newell shall posses all̄ the Lands of theire deseased ffather uppon these Conditions that thay doe pay theire Sisters so much in Currant Country pay ffor that part of sd Lands as may ffall to theire sisters iff the mouable estate will not pay them theire portions that is to say astoe that vallue that the Land is Inuentoried att thay are to Redeeme itt in Country pay.....

"Lastly wee haue giuene into the worsh[ll]: Court the seuerall sums that each of the Chilldren haue allready Reseaiued as Neere as Wee Can: Intreating them to make an Eaquall distribution off the fore mentioned Estate according to our agreement vnto all which wee haue sett ouer hands and seales this 8th of Nouemb[r] 1689.....

"Signed and sealed in the presence
off
George Graue
Caleb Stanly"

Rebackah newell (Seal)
John newell (Seal)
Samuel Newell (Seal)
John Standly (Seal)
Thomas North (Seal)"

"part off the 21: & 22: 23: and 24 Lines in
this writing was Rased out before this
writting was giune in to the Court and accepted by the saide Court
By the Consent off all the partys Conserned in the sd writing"[15]

"The wife of thomas Nowell y[e] aged Deperted this life y[e] 24th febeuary 169-7/8"[16]

The foregoing entry does not give the name of Thomas Newell's wife, but the deed before referred to, entered on the Norwich Records and dated April 22, 1697, only ten months prior to the date of the death, shows that his wife Rebecca was living at that date, and this entry no doubt refers to her.

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[15] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 5, reverse end, pp. 13, 14, and Probate Files, Thomas Newell estate.

[16] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. F.

CHILDREN OF THOMAS AND REBECCA (OLMSTEAD) NEWELL

REBECCA	b. about Jan., 1643;[17]			mar. Joseph Woodford[19] of Farmington, Conn.
MARY	" about Mar., 1646;[17]			" Mar. 20, 1667, Thomas Bascom[20] of Northampton, Mass.
JOHN	" about Jan., 1647;[17]			died June 16, 1696.[21]
THOMAS	" about Mar., 1650;[17]			mar. Nov. 5, 1679, Elizabeth Wrotham[22] and lived in Waterbury and Farmington, Conn.
HESTER	" about July, 1652;[17]			" Nov. 18, 1669, John Stanley[23] of Farmington and Waterbury, Conn.
SARAH	"	bap. Feb. 18, 1654;[18]	"	before Apr. 14, 1684, Arthur Smith[24] of Hartford, Conn.
MARTHA	"	" "about April the 14th", 1658;[17]	died	evidently before Oct. 15, 1689.[25]
HANNAH	"	" about Feb. 11, 1658;[18]	mar.	Thomas North[26] of Farmington, Conn.
SAMUEL	"	" Dec. 5, 1660;[18]	"	Dec. 20, 1683, Mary Hart[22] and lived in Farmington, Conn.
JOSEPH	"	" Apr. 20, 1664;[18]	died	between Nov. 2 and 14, 1689.[27]

[17] Farmington, Conn., Church Records in New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 326.

[18] Ibid., vol. 11, p. 327.

[19] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 5, reverse end, pp. 13, 14, inventory and settlement of Thomas Newell estate, also vol. 8, reverse end, p. 57, will of Joseph Woodford.

[20] Ibid., vol. 5, reverse end, pp. 13, 14, inventory and settlement of Thomas Newell estate, also Northampton, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, p. 97.

[21] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, John Newell estate, 1696.

[22] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. J.

[23] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 5, reverse end, pp. 13, 14, inventory and settlement of Thomas Newell estate. The Stanley Genealogy, compiled by Israel P. Warren, p. 36, is the authority for this date of marriage. This date, with other information in the history, was evidently taken from a manuscript written by Nathaniel Stanley, and which was last known to be in the possession of Lewis M. Norton of Goshen, Conn.

[24] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 5, reverse end, pp. 13, 14, inventory and settlement of Thomas Newell estate; Farmington Land Records, vol. 1, folio 71, and Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", p. 19.

[25] "Private Controversies", vol. 4, document 3, Conn. State Library, will of Elizabeth Olmstead of Norwich, Conn.

[26] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 5, reverse end, pp. 13, 14, inventory and settlement of Thomas Newell estate.

[27] Ibid., vol. 5, reverse end, pp. 47, 48, will and inventory of Joseph Newell estate.

THE FAMILY OF

WILLIAM SMITH

James Savage, in his Genealogical Dictionary of New England, makes the statement that Christopher Smith of Northampton, Massachusetts, Joseph and Simon Smith of Hartford, Connecticut, and WILLIAM SMITH of Hartford, Wethersfield, Middletown and Farmington, Connecticut, were brothers; also that Mary, wife of William Partridge of Hartford, Connecticut, and Hadley, Massachusetts, was their sister.[1]

No authority is given for this statement and the source from which he obtained the information is now unknown.

On page 21 of the reverse end of the first volume of the Land Records of Hartford, Connecticut, known as the "Book of Distributions", is this entry:

"william Smeth was maryed to Eliz
in august one thousaind six hundreth forty & fower".

Various writers have stated that the name of Smith's wife as originally entered on the record was ELIZABETH STANLEY. This idea was perhaps strengthened by the fact that Smith in his will hereafter given mentions his "Brother John Standly".

Whether this inference is correct or not it is difficult if not impossible to determine at this late day.

Although Smith's marriage is entered on the Hartford Records, he owned no real estate there and it is a question whether he resided in that town.

Document 163 in volume 1 of Towns and Lands in the Connecticut State Library is a bond, dated March 25, 1642. It is witnessed by

William Smiteg

[1] Genealogical Dictionary of New England, vol. 4, pp. 111, 133, 136.

His name appears between the names of well-known Wethersfield residents who served on the jury of the Particular Court the "first Thursday in Decēber" 1644,[2] proving that he was living in Wethersfield at that time.

The next that we learn of Smith is among the records of the General Court held July 9, 1645, when

"Will' Smith of Wethersfield is chosen Clarke of the band for that towne, and to vewe the Arms."[3]

His lands are entered on page 71 of volume 1 of Wethersfield Land Records as follows:

"The first of march 1647"

"The lands of Will: Smith lying in Wethersfeild w^{h} was giuen him by the Church & towne

"One pece wheron his house standeth con: one acr: one Rood more or lese the end Abuts on Rose leine east & new street west the sids Against the lands of Clemain Chaplin north & Rich: Smith South

"Another pece lying in mile mea: con: fiue acr: more or lese the ends Abuts on the great Swamp west and the great Riuer east the sids Against the lands of Sam: Gardner: South and Luke hitchcocke north".

We find this entry on page 32 of the first volume of Town Votes:

"Will Smith opon the 22th of Septembe 1649 gaue in to the Towne what they was Indebted to him for his beating of the Drum vpon the lords Dayes for 16 month & 2 weeks 1 7 6".

Just when he left Wethersfield is not known but on folio 4 of volume 1, Middletown Town Votes, is this entry:

"nouember the 8 1652 It was [ag]re[ed] by a me[ting] of the inhabetanc of midelltoun at m^{r} stows that thos men whos nams ar under writen ar chosen for a commite for the uewing of all lands which [are] petishoned for whether hous lots or medo or other out lots that so thar may be equall deuishons ther of and thay ar to giue a tru acount to the tounn of all such lands & upon the uewe therof:

Roberd webster:
samewell stoking
wilyam smith:
wilyam cornwell
Thomas wetmer:
John halle: Juner:"

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[2] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 114.

[3] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 128.

At the same meeting William Smith was elected one of the Townsmen "for the south sid the rever" and March 14, 1654, he was one of three men "chosen by the Towne to valu mens estats".[4]

September 3, 1655, the authorities of the town made an agreement with him to keep the ferry for the ensuing year.[5]

He appears to have been the first Recorder or Town Clerk and held that office until about November 1656.[6]

He was also a Deputy to the General Court at the sessions of September, October and February 1652, April, August, September, October and November 1653, March 1653-4, and May and October 1655.[7]

On page 1 of the first volume of Middletown Land Records is this entry:

"the last of May 1654 the lands of William Smith recorded
p me William Smith recorder"
"one peice whereon his house stands conteying fiue Acres more or less the ends abutt against the meeting house yard south the land of Will: Markcum North: Sides against the land of Andrew warners West and the Towne lott East:"

This home-lot was situated on the north side of "Meeting House Green", now known as Saint John's Square.

Besides this there were three and one-half acres in the Long Meadow, four acres at Wongonk and six acres at "Mauromuck".[8]

It has been stated that he held the office of Town Clerk until November 1656. He evidently left town soon after as we find that on March 15, 1656-7, he was admitted to membership in the Congregational Church of Farmington and his son Joseph was baptized the same day.[9]

May 10, 1659, he sold his Middletown lands to John Kirby and Thomas Allyn for "fiue & thirty pounds starling". In the deed his residence is given as Farmington and his occupation as a "planter".[10]

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[4] Middletown, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, folios 4, 12.
[5] Ibid., vol. 1, folio 9.
[6] Ibid., vol. 1, folio 12.
[7] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 234, 235, 236, 238, 245, 246, 247, 248, 250, 273, 274, 278.
[8] Middletown, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 1.
[9] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 325.
[10] Middletown, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 40.

"At a meeting of the towne of ffarmingtown in the yeare 1660 allso there was granted to William Smith to have five acors for a home-lott lying beyond Poke Brooke on the south side of the highwaye to Hartford".[11]

On page 78 of the second volume of Farmington Land Records is this entry of his lands:

"Janena—1665"

"Land in fermingtun in the Juresdick of Conecktícott belonging To william Smeth & to his haiers for euer—

"viz One p̄sell on which a dwelling house Now standeth which he Bought of Thomas demon & the house is his dwelling house with yeardes or gardens theare in being Contaiñ by Estemā one Acre be it more or Les Abutting on the highway on the North & on the west & on the widdow willsons Land on the East & on John Norths Land on the South".

In addition to this he owned five different tracts of plowing and meadow land in the Great Meadow, amounting in the whole to sixty-one acres. On the record it is stated that he purchased all these lands of Thomas Demon, but the date of the transaction is not given.

The original first volume of Farmington Town Votes having disappeared many years since, it is impossible to learn whether William Smith was chosen to any town office, but it is inferred that about 1663 he held the position of Hayward, as at a session of the Hartford County Court, held on June 4 of that year, he had a suit against William Judd, Thomas Judd, Junior, and Matthew Woodruff for rescuing their cattle, which were being driven to the pound.[12]

There is no record of his death but it must have occurred after December 14, 1669, the date of the following will, and before January 6, 1669-'70, when an inventory of his estate was taken.

"The Last Will and Testament of William Smith:"

"I william Smith of ffarmington being thorough the Uisitation of god Very weake in body but of good understanding doe in the few wordes following dispose of that little estate which He hath Lent mee

"ffirst my will is that my Just and Lawfull debts be duly discharged and paid out of my whole Estate

"Secondly that my wife shall haue the third part of my Estate which shall then be In my house and Homstead

[11] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, p. 35.

[12] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, pp. 1, 3.

"farther my will Is that then the rest of my estate Shall be divided by Equall proportion unto my children Moreover my desyre is that mr Anthony Howkins and Brother John Standly, would please to oversee this my will and Testament: and in particular that they would see that my estate bee divided and proportioned as is abovesayd. to whom I give full power to doe accordingly.

December 14: 69".

"That this Is ye Last Will of William Smith of ffarmington. though not subscribed by him by reason of bodely weaknes is attested by us

Samuell Hooker
John Norton".[13]

An inventory of his estate was taken January 6, 1669-'70, which showed

In real estate a house and home-lot	£26–00–00
60 acres of land	78–13–00
and personal estate consisting of household furniture, grain, etc.,	
making a total of	£229–00–00

The will and inventory were presented to the County Court March 3, 1669–'70, and his widow Elizabeth was appointed to administer the estate. Robert Porter and Jonathan Smith testified that as they understood the matter the widow was to have one-third of the whole estate and the Court ordered it to be divided in accordance therewith.[14]

In the sketch of the Bird family are outlined the conditions on which a tract of land in the "Great Swamp" was given to sundry inhabitants of the town January 18, 1670.

William Smith's heirs appear in the list of names to whom it was given and their proportion of the whole lands was seventeen acres.[15]

Elizabeth, widow of William Smith, made her will November 15, 1676, and later added a codicil thereto which was not dated. There is no record of her death nor any gravestone now extant to her memory.

[13] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, reverse end, p. 68, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, William Smith estate.

[14] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, p. 97, and reverse end, p. 69.

[15] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, p. 15.

"December 5t. 1678."

"The Last will & Testament of elizabeth Smith was exhibited in Court & proued & ordered to be recorded Jonathan Smith & John Tompson made oath to the same & the Inventory of her estate was allso exhibited & Oath made by Jonathan Smith that there was a true presentment of it made to the apprizers so farr as at present known, & If more doth appeare it Shall be added to the Inventory./"[16]

"The last will and testment of Elisebeth Smith of farminton"

"I Elisebth Smith of farmintoune being thorow the visitation of God: viry weeck in body: but of good vnderstanding doe in these words following dispose of thee litel estate which god hath giuen me

"first my will is that my son Jonathan shall haue the vse and benifit of my hous and homsted that is to Say. the barn orchard loot and those things that are theiron not accounted moueables vntill such time that my youngest Son Samuel Smith is of the age of twenty one years and then the foresaid Samuel shall haue one half of the whole that is of the house and home sted aboue spescified and that the other half of the same shall be my son Jonathans and my son Williams equelly proporshoned more ouer I giue and bequeth to my Son Jonathan my right of land in the great swamp towards Midlton as allso I giue to his Son Samuel my grandchild a litel pece of land in the great meadow:

"I furder giue and bequeath to my Son Joseph my hors and one of my working oxen and to my Son Beniamin I giue and bequeth a foure acker loot giuen me by the toune and the other of my working oxen:

"I also giue to my Son wiliam smith the sword that was his fathers and I giue to Samuel that gun which I haue and to Jonathan the pick that was his fathers also to my daughter Mehitebel I giue and bequeth all my houshold stuf my beding and aparil as all so that which was her sister elisibeths of all sorts as also my flax: and half a pece of fine cloth and the rest of that cloth I giue anuf of it to my daughter Susanah to make her an aporn and the remainder shall be deuided for the vse of my foure youngest Sons as all so to my daughter in law Rachel Smith I giue and bequeth a childs blancit which she hath alredy in posesion

"as for my daughter susanah all though I can frely pass by her offences done to my selfe yet I can not but testifie against her in some of her vnworthy cariags towards me for some while past but still I haue a motherly tender afection towards her: and therfore doe frely giue and bequeth to her that cow which is comonly caled whitface and as for what is left my will is that out of It all my Just and lawfull debts shall be duly paid and disscharged and the rest when My debts are paid and my daughter mehitebel hath her leying out left her by her fathers will: It shall be deuided amoungst all my Children equly proportioned: all charges In administration first answered and If their be not estate found to answer the debts of the estate ech one according

[16] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 9.

to what thay haue reseiued of the estate shall bare proportionably to the answering of the debts:

"as also my will is that after the next haruist ech of my sons which haue not yet their land in posesion shall thenc forward haue the benifit and rent of It for themseles as also my will furder is that all the legicyes shall be for the benifit and vsce of the administrater vntill the hairs com to be of age to reseiue them

"as for the children which I haue which are vnder age to be for and at their own despose my desire is that my youngest Son Samuel should be with his brother Jonathan vntill he be twenty one years of age his brother caring well to him and teching him to reed and wright and Indeuering to lern him his trade according to the best of his ability except their apere Just grounds to the contrary or ither of them haueing sufficient cause of dislike my desire Is that my son Jonathan Cary in all respects as a carefull tender brother to him

"as for beniamin and william I would haue them also setled and placed vnder some good gouerment whare may be lyking to them to lern sum good vsfull treads but In aspeacial maner my care Is that thay be parfected In their learning reding and writing

"I desire also that my son Jonathan should be administrator to my estate my Request also Is that Liftenant samuel steel and John Judd would be ouersers and see that this my will be parformed

"and I in speashel that thay with my son Jonathan would take care of the dispose of my sons beniamen and william acording to the best of their skill labouring to sut their minds In referanc to places and treads:

Elisibath Smith her ♌ marke Nouember 15th 1676"

"The testimonys here of John Thomson
John North senior his x marke"

"I Elesabeth Smith: being thorough the wise prouidens of god yet in the land of the liuing: all thof in a langushing̃ aflicted condision thorow the good plesur of god my life being yet lenthened out: and my Sun Wiliam being taken out of this world: therefore I have considered where to be sto that litell which in my will I gaue to him: hens I doe giue and will to my dafter mehitabell: that part of the homsted which I gaue to my sun william desesed: and to my sun Samuell I giue that sword which i gaue to wiliam: as allso a colt in the wods: witnes my mark

"Testimonys here of Elesabeth smith ꝛR hur
marke"

Jonathan Smith

hur
Rebeca ⊂⊃ Bird[17]
mark:"

[17] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, reverse end, p. 9, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Elizabeth Smith estate.

An inventory of her estate was taken December 4, 1678, of which the homestead and other lands were valued at £54–15–00.
These with the personal estate made a total of £151–01–11.[18]

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM AND ELIZABETH ( ) SMITH

JONATHAN	b. Jan. 20, 1646;[19]		mar. 1, Rachel Steele.[23] 2, after Jan. 2, 1689, and before Jan. 13, 1695-6, Mary Bird.[24] 3, before June 25, 1720, Sarah[25] , and lived in Farmington, Conn.
JOBANNA	" Jan. 20, 1648;[19]		a soldier in King Philip's war and killed at Hatfield, Mass., May 30, 1676. Administration on his estate was granted to his brother Jonathan, Sept. 7, 1676, and the property was ordered divided among his mother, brothers and sisters.[26]
SUSANNA	" Mar. 20, 1650;[19]		living Nov. 15, 1676.[27]
ELIZABETH	" May 20, 1653;[19]		died before Nov. 15, 1676.[27]
MEHETABLE	" May 20, 1653;[19]		living Nov. 15, 1676.[27]
JOSEPH	" Aug. 25, 1655,[19]	bap. Mar. 15, 1656;[21]	mar. 1, before Aug. 3, 1684, Lydia .[28] 2, Nov. 20, 1691, Johanna Loomis.[29]
BENJAMIN	" Apr. , 1656,[20]	" Apr. 14, 1658;[22]	living in Westfield, Mass.,[30] Jan. 8, 1713.
WILLIAM	" Apr. , 1661;[20]		died between Nov. 15, 1676, and Dec. 5, 1678.[31]
SAMUEL	" May , 1664;[20]		mar. Mar. 24, 1687, Ruth Porter[32] and lived in Farmington, Conn.

[18] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, reverse end, p. 10.
[19] P. 5 of Births, Marriages and Deaths, in vol. 1 of Middletown, Conn., Land Records.
[20] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, reverse end, p. 69.
[21] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 32.
[22] Ibid., vol. 11, p. 325.

[23] May 11, 1696, Jonathan Smith made an affidavit regarding some land transactions in the town of Farmington.

In his testimony he spoke of "my honerd father in Law Samuell Stell." ("Private Controversies", vol. 4, document 276, Conn. State Library.)

Lieutenant Samuel Steele of Farmington and Wethersfield had four daughters, namely:

MARY	b. Dec. 5, 1652;	mar. Oct. 24, 1670,	John Thomson of Farmington, Conn.
RACHEL	" Oct. 30, 1654.		
SARAH	bap. Dec. 29, 1656;	" Feb. 8, 1682,	Samuel Boardman of Wethersfield, Conn.
HANNAH	b. Aug. , 1668;	" 1,	Treat of Wethersfield, Conn.
		2, Apr. 12, 1694,	Lieut. John Hart of Farmington, Conn.

The marriages of these three daughters leave only Rachel Steele unaccounted for, who must therefore have been the first wife of Jonathan Smith and mother of his daughters Elizabeth and Mary.

For the births and baptisms of the above Steele daughters, see Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, reverse end, folio 2; vol. 1, reverse end, folio C, and New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 324.

For their marriages, see Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, folio J; vol. 2, p. 123, and Wethersfield, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 53.

[24] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, reverse end, p. 82, will of Jonathan Smith, Probate Files, Joseph Bird estate, and New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 12, p. 36.

[25] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, reverse end, p. 82, will of Jonathan Smith.

[26] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 450, and Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, p. 155.

[27] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, reverse end, p. 9, will of Elizabeth Smith.

[28] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 12, p. 36.

[29] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. M.

[30] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 217.

[31] "Dec. 5, 1678. This court grants & orders that the estate of Elizabeth & Wm Smith Deceassed shall be diuided in equall proportions among the Suruiueing Bretheren & Sisters:/" Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 9, and reverse end, p. 9, will of Elizabeth Smith.

[32] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. I, and vol. 2, p. 308.

Joseph Smith, sixth child and third son of William and Elizabeth ( ) Smith, was born in Middletown, Connecticut, August 25, 1655, and was baptized in Farmington, Connecticut, March 15, 1656, the day that his father was admitted to membership in the church of that town.[33]

Of his early life we have no knowledge and there is no record of his marriage to Lydia , but it occurred prior to August 3, 1684, when she was admitted to membership in the Farmington Congregational Church.[34] Her date of birth, maiden name and parentage are unknown. Joseph Smith was admitted to membership in the same church August 3, 1690.[35] There is no record of death of his wife, but her youngest child, Elizabeth, was baptized February 16, 1689-'90,[36] when she was presumably but a few days old. Whether the mother died at the birth of this child or survived her some months cannot now be determined.

He married second, November 20, 1691, Joanna or Johanna Loomis,[37] born October 22, 1665, daughter of Samuel Loomis of Windsor, Connecticut and Westfield, Massachusetts.[38]

Joseph Smith was chosen to the office of Fence viewer in December 1682 and '87, May '89, December '92, '96, and 1712.

The record of his appointment in May 1689 states that he was to act for the north end of the town.[39]

It will be recalled that Jobanna, brother of Joseph Smith, was killed at Hatfield, Massachusetts, in 1676, and that his property was ordered divided among his brothers and sisters.

Joseph received as part of his share a piece of land containing four acres which in April 1713 was bounded north on the highway leading to Hartford, east on land of John Hooker, and south on lands of John Hooker and the heirs of William Judd.

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[33] P. 5 of Births, Marriages and Deaths, in vol. 1 of Middletown, Conn., Land Records, and New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 325.

[34] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 12, p. 36.

[35] Ibid., vol. 12, p. 37.

[36] Ibid., vol. 12, p. 149.

[37] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. M.

[38] Conn. Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, folio 55, and Windsor, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 22.

[39] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, pp. 17, 36, 41, 49, 72, 128.

October 23, 1684, Joseph purchased of James and Sarah North five acres of land adjoining this piece on the west.[40] This whole tract of nine acres became Joseph's homestead. Later he made purchases in the Great Meadow and at Wolf-Plain.[41]

April 2, 1709, Thomas Hart certified that Joseph Smith had a soldier's lot granted him on the top of the mountain in the right of his brother Jobanna Smith.[41]

March 30, 1709, Jonathan Smith as administrator on the estates of his mother, Elizabeth Smith, and brother, Jobanna Smith, conveyed to his brothers Joseph and Samuel Smith as their part of said estates three pieces of land in Farmington, viz:

A tract of one hundred and twenty-six acres in the farthest West Division not yet laid out, another of one hundred and twenty-four and one-quarter acres in the South Division in the west tier of lots, next to West Mountain, and a third of twenty-eight acres in the West Division.[41]

May 12, 1714, Joseph Smith conveyed to his son Jobanna five acres of land in the Great Meadow, and May 11, 1716, he conveyed to his son-in-law, William Porter, four acres of land at Two-Mile Meadow Hill.[42]

Joseph Smith died at some date, now unknown, prior to September 2, 1718, when administration on his estate was granted to his widow, Joanna, and son-in-law, Isaac Cowles of Farmington.

An inventory of the estate was taken September 18, 1718, and presented to the Court October 7 following. It amounted to £309–09–09, of which £222 was in real estate.

The personal estate consisted of clothing, household furniture, cattle, "ffurniture for shoemaking", etc.[43]

The administrators filed their account March 3, 1718-'19, which showed a balance of property remaining for distribution of £316–03–01.

Distribution was ordered as follows: to the widow, Joanna, the life use of one-third of the real estate and one-third of the

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[40] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, pp. 18a and 20b.

[41] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 18a.

[42] Ibid., vol. 3, pp. 171, 258.

[43] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, pp. 79, 84, and reverse end, p. 292.

personal in fee: to the eldest son, Joseph, a double share of £43–16–08; to each of the other children, Jobanna Smith, Lydia Woodford, Mary Porter, Joanna Porter, Elizabeth Cowles, Ruth Smith, Susanna Smith, Thankful Smith, Mercy Smith, Esther Smith and Experience Smith, a single share of £21–18–04, inclusive of what they had already received.[45]

This distribution of the estate was presented to the Probate Court July 7, 1719, accepted and ordered on file.[46]

January 21, 1722-3, Ruth Smith of Farmington, daughter of Joseph, deceased, sold lands in Farmington to her "brother-in-law", James Gridley, and April 18, 1726, Thankful Smith, daughter of Joseph, sold to her "brother-in-law", Nathaniel Porter of Farmington, certain lands. In both cases the property was conveyed subject to the life use of their mother, Johanna Smith.[47]

Thus far all efforts have failed to learn the history of widow Johanna Smith after the date of the last-mentioned deed.

CHILDREN OF JOSEPH AND LYDIA ( ) SMITH

LYDIA	b.	bap. Aug. 18, 1684;[48]	mar. Jan. 23, 1699, Joseph Woodford[50] of Farmington, Conn.
JOSEPH	"	" Aug. 18, 1684;[48]	" Jan. 19, 1707-8, Mary Rye[50] and lived in Farmington, Conn.
JOBANNA	"	" Apr. 12, 1685;[49]	living Apr. 17, 1724.[51]
MARY	"	" Jan. 30, 1686;[49]	mar. June 14, 1711, William Porter[52] of Farmington, Conn.

[45] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, p. 98.
[46] Ibid., vol. 9, p. 107, and Probate Files, Joseph Smith estate.
[47] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 4, pp. 107, 325.
[48] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 12, p. 147.
[49] Ibid., vol. 12, p. 148.
[50] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 125, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, p. 98, order for distribution, Joseph Smith estate.
[51] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 4, p. 175.
[52] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 125, and vol. 3, p. 258.

ELIZABETH	b.	bap. Feb. 16, 1689-90;[53]	mar. Dec. 27, 1716, Isaac Cowles[54] of Farmington, Conn.

CHILDREN OF JOSEPH AND JOHANNA (LOOMIS) SMITH

JOHANNA	b. Oct. 15, 1692,[55]	bap. Oct. 16, 1692;[56]	mar. June 1, 1715, Nathaniel Porter[58] of Farmington, Conn.
RUTH	" Dec. 5, 1695,[55]	" Dec. 9, 1694;[57]	" Jan. 24, 1722-3, Joseph Sedgwick[59] of Hartford, Conn., and Tyringham, Mass.
SUSANNA	" Apr. 20, 1698,[55]	"	" Nov. 26, 1719, James Gridley[60] of Farmington, Conn.
THANKFUL	" Nov. 4, 1700,[55]	"	unm., Dec. 21, 1739[61]
MERCY	" Aug. 6, 1702,[55]	"	" Dec. 21, 1739.[61]
HESTER or ESTHER	" Oct. 30, 1705,[55]	"	died May 18, 1725. Administration on her estate was granted to Nathaniel Porter, Nov. 2, 1725, and an inventory filed the same day in which the date of death is given the same as on the town record.[62]

[53] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 12, p. 149.

[54] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 94, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, p. 98, order for distribution, Joseph Smith estate.

[55] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. F.

[56] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 12, p. 150.

[57] Ibid., vol 12, p. 327. This baptism is entered on the church records in its regular chronological order, proving that the date of birth as here given is one year too late.

[58] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 93, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, p. 98, order for distribution, Joseph Smith estate.

[59] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 32, and Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 6, p. 220.

[60] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 101, and vol. 6, p. 220.

[61] Ibid., vol. 6, p. 220.

Experience b.		bap. July 11, 1708;[64]	unm., Dec. 21, 1739.[61]
Zephaniah	" Feb. 16, 1710-11,[63]	" Feb. 18, 1710-11;[65]	died before Mar. 3, 1718-19.[66]

[62] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 148, Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, p. 106, and Probate Files, Esther Smith estate.

[63] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 97.

[64] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 38, p. 277.

[65] Ibid., vol. 38, p. 278.

[66] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, p. 98, order for distribution, Joseph Smith estate.

THE FAMILY OF

THOMAS THOMSON

On page 395 of volume 49 of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register is an abstract of the will of Samuel Thompson, citizen and stationer of London, which was made August 25, 1668, and probated November 9 following. After making provision for his three children he made these bequests:

"I give to my nephew Thomas Thompson twenty pounds to be paid at the expiration of his indentures of Apprenticeship, or, if he be desirous to go over to his mother to New England, then at such time as shall be thought fit by my executor, to whose care and service I commit him for the remainder of the time of his indentures. To my niece Beatrice Thompson five pounds."

In view of the facts which will appear later in this article, it would seem as if the testator was a brother of THOMAS THOMSON of Hartford and Farmington, Connecticut, who had a son Thomas and daughter Beatrice.

The name of "Tho Tomson" appears as "Witnes hereunto" of "A Inuentory of the goods of John Cattell, deceased", evidently of Wethersfield, Connecticut, which was "taken and prysed by John Coleman, Samuell Hales, the 17 of July, 1644."[1]

Thomas Thomson owned two acres of swamp land on the east side of the Great River in Hartford, which he sold to Thomas Stanley at some unknown date, and February 1, 1655, it had become the property of John Pantry.[2]

On page 22 of the reverse end of the first volume of Land Records of Hartford, Connecticut, known as the "Book of Distributions", is found this entry:

"Thomas TomSunn was maryed vnto Anne welles Aprell the foreteenth one Thousaind Six hundreth forty & Six"

On page 138 of the third volume of Farmington Land Records is entered a deed dated May 16, 1646, whereby Thomas Welles,

[1] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 457, 458.

[2] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", pp. 137, 518.

"Gent." of Hartford, conveyed to Thomas Thomson of said Hartford and Anne his wife,

"In Consideration of A marryage lately had & taken betrothed & Sollemnized by & between Thomas Thomson & Anne Welles Daughter to ye s^d^ Thomas Wells"

one-half of his farm and buildings "within ye bounds of Farmington alis Tunchis Sepus", comprising a house lot of seven acres, bounded north on the highway, east on the Common, south on Mr. Steele's home lot and west on the river; thirty acres of meadow, bounded north on Mr. Haynes land, east on the river, south on the Indians land and west on Mr. Webster's land, also ninety acres of "earable" land, bounded north on land of Matthew Woodruff, east on the river, south on Mr. Haynes land and west on land of Mr. Webster.

This property was given Thomas and Anne Thomson for life and to "the longest liuer of them", and at their deaths to their heirs, and in default of such heirs the title was to vest in the heirs of the said Thomas Welles.

How soon Thomson removed to Farmington is unknown but it is conjectured that he went there soon after the date of the above mentioned deed.

He was a Deputy to the General Court, supposedly from Farmington, at the sessions of May 16 and 21 and June 26, 1650.[3]

Owing to the loss, many years since, of the first volume of Farmington Town Votes it is impossible to determine whether he held any other position than that of Constable to which he was sworn at a session of the Particular Court held on the first Thursday of March 1652-3.[4]

The records of the First Church of Farmington, as printed on page 323 of volume 11 of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register show that Thomas Thomson was one of the seven persons who organized the church on the 13th of October 1652. His wife was admitted to membership "about one month after."

Thomas "Tomsum Eanded his Naterall Life Aprell the Twenty & fiue one Thousan Six hundreth fifty & fiue—"[5]

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[3] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 207, 208, 209, 210.

[4] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 40.

[5] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 320.

presumably a young man leaving the following will:

"Aprill A°: 1654"

"I Thomas Tomson being in ꝑfecte Health & memory doe ordeyne this my Last will & Testam^t as followeth.

"Inprimis I giue vnto my beloued wife whom I make my Executrix the one halfe of all my Land in farmington boundes & the one halfe of all my housinge barnes & orchardinge therevpon duringe her naturall life & all my goodes & chattells she paying out such debts as I owe & Legacies as I bequeath as is hereafter expressed. ꝑvided alway & it is my desire that my wife shall well educate & bring vp my children in Learinnge & she to possesse all my Land & Estate vntill my two sons come to twentie yeares of age & then to giue them what houshold stuffe she pleaseth ouer & aboue what I bequeath to them.

"Item I giue vnto my two sons John & Thomas the other halfe of my Landes howsing barnes & orchard & the ꝑfit of them to be equally divided to them & to their heires Exec^rs Adm^rs & Assignes for euer

"It I giue vnto my daughter Beatrice my young mare & the Colt she brought & the ꝑfit of her & 20^l more at the day of her mariage to be paid her by her mother if she be Livinge Else by her two brothers Equally.

"It I giue vnto my daughter Mary my young mare bought of Richard ffellowes & the ꝑfits of her & 20^l more in Country pay to be paid her w^thin a yeare of the day of her marriage by her mother or by her two brothers Equally between them

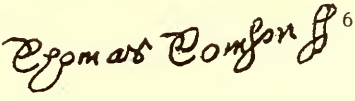
"It I giue my sonn John a young horse colt now 2 year old apr (54). & I giue to my son Thomas a young horse Colt of a yeare old this spring Apr (54)

"And after the decease of my wife I giue vnto my two sons John & Tho: all my Land in farmington boundes wth all howsing barnes & orchard^s thervpon to them & to their heires for euer (they paying out to their two sisters 20^l apeece in two yeares) after, Equally to be divided between them

"Item I giue vnto my children each of them a byble.

"And I desire my two brothers in England & my brother Tho: welles to be their overseers In wittnes herof I haue herevnto put my hand the day & yeare first aboue written."

by me

 [6]

The Particular Court, at a session held in May 1656, took this action:

"The Courte having seriously Considered the will of Tho: Tomson and finding many termes or expressions thearin darke and Intricate

[6] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Thomas Thomson estate.

doe for the prevenssion of after differances amongst the Legatees declare that (by and bring vp in learning Children) shall be vnderstood that the sonnes shall have learning to write plainely and read distinctly in the bible. and the daughters so to reade and to sowe suffitiently for the making. of theire one ordinary linnen. (by the proffits of the two mares and one Colt given to. Beatrice and mary) shall be vnderstood thus. that the executrix. and ove[r] seer should now dispose of by sale or otherwise the aforesaid mares and Colt and what ever is produced by them. for the best advantage of the saide Beatrice and mary, in theire just proportions all which they are to receive a just acco[t]. of att the day of theire Respective marriage".[7]

The will is entered in full on page 95 of the reverse end of volume 2 of the Particular Court Records in the handwriting of John Cullick, Secretary of the Colony from May 1648 to May 1658.

Immediately following the will on the record is this entry in the hand of Daniel Clark, who succeeded Cullick in the office of Secretary:

"This Will explicated by the Court in May Ano 56 as appeares by the Records of that Court.

"Anthony Howkins haueing married y[e] Widdow Tompson is appointed to administer to and to husband y[e] Estate of Thom: Tomson He engageing himselfe and heires to y[e] due Execution of y[e] Will according to y[e] Courts Explication of it. at May Court (56"

The decree of the Court in May 1656 regarding the settlement of the estate, as shown on pages 207-208 of this sketch, would seem to indicate that the widow had not remarried at that date, but probably before the year closed she became the second wife of Anthony Howkins, who removed from Windsor to Farmington about that time.

The entry following the will would, if dated, probably be found to have been made a year or two later.[8]

"The Inventory of the Goods and Chattles of Thomas Tomson of farming Towne who made his will and deceased Aprill 25th:1655",

[7] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 87.

[8] On p. 369 of vol. 2 of Stiles's History of Ancient Windsor edition of 1892, the statement is made that Anthony Howkins and his wife, Anne, were probably married July 16, 1656. The compilers of that work, are, at this date (1904), unable to state the sources from which the information was derived. This date is certainly very probable and possibly is the precise date of the marriage.

consisted of

A house and lot valued at	£90–00–00
70 acres of land	140–00–00
"Tooles for a Carpenter and other small Implements in ye Chamber"	5–01–00
besides household furniture, horses, cattle, etc. making the "Sum totum"	£549–05–02.[9]

Ann, widow of Thomas Thomson and Anthony Howkins, died before October 19, 1680, the date when an inventory of her estate was taken. The property, which consisted wholly of clothing, household goods and other personal estate, at the houses of Samuel Gridley, John Thomson and Thomas Thomson, amounted to £85–09–06, besides £24–03–10 due for rents, etc. The debts of the estate were "By legacies not yet paid" £52–08–06, "Due to Thomas Thomson" £04–07–01[10] and other claims amounting to £04–03–11.

At a session of the Hartford County Court held December 2, 1680,

"An Inventory of the estate of Mrs Ann Howkins was exhibited in court & oath made that there was a True presentment of the estate of the deceassed to the apprizers & If more doth appeare it shall be added to the Inventory.

"The Court haueing considered the estate at present, as it is presented find fifty one pownd Thirteen shillings & Tenn pence to be diuided & distribute the same as followeth

to John the eldest Sone	12^ll^–18^s^– 4^d^	51^ll^–13^s^–4^d^
Tho Thomas Tompson - - -	06 – 9 – 2	
To Beatrice parker - - - - -	04 – 0 – 0	
To mary Hally - - - - - - -	04 – 0 – 0	
To Hester Gridly being neglected in her Fathers will	16 – 5 –10	
To Hana Howkins - - -	4 –00 – 0	

"The court appoynt John Tompson & Sam^ll^: Gridly to be administrators to the estate & captain John Standly to be overseer & Assistant to the Administrators & in case more debts Com in from the estate or to the estate, it shall be diuided or deducted according to this distribution, John Tompson freely alowed out of his proportion to his Brother forty shillings./"[11]

[9] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 96.

[10] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, reverse end, p. 47.

[11] Ibid., vol. 4, p. 31.

CHILDREN OF THOMAS AND ANN (WELLES) THOMSON

BEATRICE	b.	bap. Jan. 17, 1646;[15]	mar.	before Oct. 19, 1680, ... Parker.[18]
JOHN[12]	"	"	"	Oct. 24, 1670, Mary Steele.[19]
THOMAS[12]	"	"	"	1, Elizabeth Smith.[20] 2, Abigail[21] and lived in Farmington, Conn.
MARY	"	" June 7, 1653;[16]	"	May 20, 1673, Samuel Hawley[22] of Stratford, Conn.
ESTHER	" June 17, 1655,[13]	" June 17, 1655;[13]	"	before Oct. 19, 1680, Gridley, perhaps Samuel of Farmington,[18] Conn.

CHILDREN OF ANTHONY AND ANN (WELLES) THOMSON HOWKINS

SARAH	b.	bap. June , 1657;[17]	died before Dec. 5, 1678.[23]
ELIZABETH	" about 1659;[14]	"	mar. Oct. 30, 1678, Paul Brinsmead[24] of Stratford, Conn.
HANNAH	" about 1661;[14]	"	living Dec. 2, 1680, unm.[25]

[12] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 95, will of Thomas Thomson.

[13] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 324, and Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 329.

[14] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, reverse end, p. 134.

[15] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 3.

[16] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 323, and Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 330.

[17] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 328.

[18] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, reverse end, p. 47, list of children appended to the inventory of Ann Howkins estate.

[19] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. J.

[20] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 5, reverse end, p. 178, Margaret Hart estate.

[21] "Record of Court of Assistants, No. 2," p. 55, in the office of State Secretary.

[22] Stratford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, old p. 42, new p. 63.

[23] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 9, Sarah Howkins estate.

[24] Ibid., vol. 3, reverse end, p. 134; vol. 4, p. 9, and Stratford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, old p. 226, new p. 432.

[25] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 31, Ann Howkins estate.

JOHN THOMSON, son of Thomas and Ann (Welles) Thomson, was born as early as 1649, for at a session of the General Assembly held in May 1670 he was one of those who were "propownded for freemen."[26]

He married October 24, 1670, MARY STEELE, born December 5, 1652, the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Boosey) Steele of Farmington, Connecticut.[27]

January 18, 1670, the town granted to sundry of the inhabitants a tract of "Land in the great Swamp lyinge one the branches of mattebesit Riuer", upon conditions which are shown in full in the sketch of the Bird family. John Thomson was given eighteen acres of this land.[28]

On page 84 of the first volume of Farmington Land Records, under date of April 25, 1687, are entered the lands of John Thomson located in the town of Farmington.

The first two pieces were evidently a part of his father's estate; one of them contained five roods, more or less, of the home-lot, "with halfe the ould dwelling howse and other howsing theron", and was bounded north and east by highways, south by land of Thomas Thomson and west by his own other land; while the other was two and one-half acres of the home-lot and was bounded north on highway, east on his own other land, south on land of John Steele and west on land of Thomas Thomson. Besides these there were twenty-four and one-quarter acres in the Great Meadow, six acres and twenty-four rods in the Plain; eleven and one-quarter acres at Indian Neck, six and one-half acres at a place called Thomson's Swamp, and several pieces in other parts of the town.

March 1, 1706-7, he deeded to his son Samuel his homestead and buildings, one-half in immediate possession and the other half at the death of the grantor.[29]

November 29, 1707, he gave to his son John, Junior, one-half of one hundred and forty-five acres of land in Farmington, the

[26] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 127.

[27] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. J, and vol. 2, reverse end, folio 2. For further evidence regarding her parentage, see the Steele sketch.

[28] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, p. 15.

[29] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 3, p. 17.

easterly line thereof being the dividing line between the towns of Farmington and Wethersfield.[30]

December 3 of the same year he conveyed to his three sons John, Thomas and Samuel, the remainder of his lands in the town of Farmington.[31]

He seems to have been a man who enjoyed the confidence and respect of his fellow townsmen.

December 27, 1682, he was chosen to the office of Fence viewer and at the same meeting he was appointed "to unight with ye Committye of ye fouer acor lotts".[32] In 1683, '84, '86, '87, '89, '90, '91 and 1701-2 he was chosen Rate maker;[33] Grand Levyman in 1686, '90, '97, '98 and 1700-1;[34] Lister in 1687, '97, '98, 1700 and 1701;[35] Constable in 1686, '87, '89, 1702, '03 and 1704,[36] and Townsman in 1692, '93 and '97.[37]

He served on the jury of the Hartford County Court in March 1681-2, September 1685, '90, '92, '94, '98, and March 1698-9.[38]

January 17, 1687-8, he was one of the persons chosen to state the bounds of the sequestered lands and in December 1691 one of a committee to "dignify" or seat the meeting house.[39]

In 1701 there was a vacancy in the pastorate and January 30, 1701-2,

> "the toun made Choyce of John Thomson sen^r^ & E^s^ John hart as there Comitty for to jndeuer the gaining a man to preach to us for the space of half a year"[40]

"John Thomson and his wife" were among the "number of such as are in full Communion in the Church in Farmington, March 1, $\frac{1679}{1680}$."[41]

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[30] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 51a.
[31] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 42a.
[32] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, p. 17.
[33] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 21, 26, 32, 36, 41, 42, 44, 47, 92.
[34] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 32, 44, 77, 90.
[35] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 34, 77, 88, 90.
[36] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 32, 36, 41, 96, 98, 100.
[37] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 49, 61, 76.
[38] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, pp. 48, 109; vol. 5, pp. 16, 44, 71, and vol. 6, pp. 47, 74.
[39] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, pp. 40, 47.
[40] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 92.
[41] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 12, p. 35.

It is inferred that Mary, wife of John Thomson, died before March 1, 1706-7, as in the deed of that date conveying lands to his son Samuel, he reserved to himself the life use of part of the premises but made no mention of his wife. (See page 211.)

John Thomson, Senior, died November 21, 1711,[42] being at least 62 years old.

February 4, 1711-'12, administration on his estate was granted by the Hartford Probate Court to his son John Thomson and son-in-law Thomas Hart. One month later an inventory of his estate, taken March 3, 1711-12, was presented to the Probate Court. The property, which was wholly personal, amounted to £174–01–02.[43]

September 1, 1712, the Court extended the time for filing the administration account to the first Monday in March 1712-'13,[44] which is the last entry on the Probate Records regarding the estate.

CHILDREN OF JOHN AND MARY (STEELE) THOMSON

JOHN	b. Dec. 29, 1671;[45] bap.	mar. 1, Nov. 2, 1699, Margaret Orton.[46] 2, June 18, 1724, Ruth Steele[47] and lived in Farmington, Conn.
THOMAS	" June 30, 1674;[45] "	living Dec. 3, 1707[48] in Farmington, Conn.
SAMUEL	" Dec. 28, 1676; " Dec. 29, 1676;[45]	mar. Feb. 17, 1706-7, Hannah Lathrop.[49]

[42] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 141.

[43] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 8, pp. 46, 63, and reverse end, p. 124.

[44] Ibid., vol. 8, p. 89.

[45] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. C, and New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 328.

[46] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 145.

[47] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 52.

[48] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 42a.

[49] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 125.

JOSEPH	b. Mar. 25, 1679;[45]	bap.	died May 14, 1679.[53]
JAMES	" May 30, 1680,[50]	" May 30, 1680;[51]	nothing further known of him.
MARY	"	" Oct. 1, 1681;[51]	mar. Dec. 17, 1702, Thomas Hart[54] of Kensington Society, Farmington, Conn.
EBENEZER	"	" Dec. 21, 1684;[52]	nothing further known about him.
NATHANIEL	"	" June 16, 1686;[52]	nothing further known about him.

SAMUEL THOMSON, third son and child of John and Mary (Steele) Thomson, was born in Farmington, December 28 or 29, 1676.[55]

He married February 17, 1706-7, HANNAH LATHROP of Wallingford, Connecticut.[56]

March 1 of the same year his father deeded to him his homestead with the buildings, to have one-half thereof in immediate possession, and the balance at the death of the grantor. In the deed, the property was bounded north on the highway leading into the meadow, southeast on the home-lot of John Thomson, Junior, south on the home-lots of John Steele and Thomas Thomson and northwest on the home-lot of Thomas Thomson.[57]

He also purchased land in various parts of the town. May 27, 1736, he conveyed to his eldest son, Samuel Thomson, Junior, several pieces of land, including ten acres at "Purgatory".[58]

By his fellow townsmen, he was appointed Fence viewer in December 1710, '18, '23, '25, '31 and '36,[59] Hayward in December

[50] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 328.

[51] Ibid., vol. 12, p. 38.

[52] Ibid., vol. 12, p. 148. The date of Nathaniel's baptism is probably a misprint for Jan. 16, 1686, as indicated by the context.

[53] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. A. That portion of the page containing the name of the child is worn away but the date of death is believed to refer to this Joseph.

[54] Ibid., vol. 1, reverse end, p. H.

[55] Ibid., vol. 1, reverse end, p. C, and New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 328.

[56] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 125.

[57] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 17.

[58] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 697.

[59] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, pp. 120, 147, 162, 202, 218, 226.

1713, '16 and '20,[60] and Surveyor of highways in December 1727.[61]

Samuel Thomson died January 17 or 18, 1738-9,[62] in his 63d year.

March 14, 1738-9, his will, of which the following is a copy, was presented to the Hartford Probate Court. His son Samuel, who had been appointed executor in the will, declining to qualify, the widow Hannah and son Samuel were appointed administrators with the will annexed.[63]

"In the Name of God. Amen."

"I. Samuel. Thomson of Farmington. In ye County of Hartford. and Colony of Conecticott. In New England. son to John Thomson being uisited with Dainjowrous sickness: Butt of sound mind and memory. and being Desirous to sett. my house in order. Do make this my Last will and Testament.

"and first of all, I Recommend my Soul into ye hands of God who gaue it hoping by ye Grace of God throw ye merrits of Jesus christ. for ye free pardon of all my sins and to Inherit Eternal Life — my Body I commit to ye Earth to be Decently Buryed: at ye discresion of my execut^er^ hereafter Named.

"and as to what worly Estate. it hath pleased God to Bless me. with in this Life I. Dispose of ye same In ye following maner and form — and first my will is that all those Debts & Dutys. which I. Do owe In Right or Concience to any maner of person or persons whatsoeuer. be well and truely payd out of my Estate by my s^d^ execut^or^ In Conueniant time after my Deceas

"Itim: I giue and Bequeath. unto Hannah. my Dearly Beloued Wife. for her use & profitt Dureing her Natural Life one third part of my Real Estate of Houseing & Lands allso one third part of all my personall estate to be her own to dispose of foreuer.

"I:t: unto my Eldest son Samuel Thomson I Giue and Bequeth to him and to his heirs and assigns for euer all my Right to and In. Land Lay'd out on ye Right of my father John Thomson. Lying in ye 16th. Lottment In ye Second Diuision of Land lying West from ye Reserued Land in s^d^. Farmington. —together with so much of my Real Estate of Housing and Lands. with what I. haue all ready Giuen him as to make his part equal. with each of his three youngest Bretheren: not Reckoning into it ye s^d^ Land in ye s^d^ 16 Lottment—

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[60] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, pp. 131, 141, 152.

[61] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 206.

[62] Gravestone, and Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 6, p. 10.

[63] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 13, p. 45.

"I :t: unto my Son Ebenezer Thomson. besids what I. haue allready Giuen him I. Giue and bequeath as a token of my Loue ye sume of Ten shillings mony

"I :t: unto my three youngest sons — uiz. Daniel. Thomson Thomas Thomson and Barnabus Thomson I Giue all ye Residue and Remainder of my Real Estate of houseing & Lands whatsoeuer and wheresoeuer. to be equally diuided to them & theyer heirs for euer still Reseruing to my wife ye use of the third part as before mentioned

"I :t: unto my two Eldest Daughters. uiz: Ruth Judd: and Mary Woodford. besids what I. haue allready Giuen them. I. Giue and Bequeath to Each of them ye sume of Ten shillings as mony

"I :t: unto my three youngest Daughters. Bathiah Thomson, Hannah Thomson. and Anne Thomson. unto Each of them I. Giue and Bequeath the sume of Seuenty pounds. of my personall Estate. as mony and the Remainder of my personall Estate. if any be my will further is that it be Equally Diuided Between my afore Named fiue Daughters — and I. Do hereby Nominate Constitute and appoynt. my sd Son Samll Thomson to be sole executor to this my Last will and Testament.

"Confirming this alone to be my Last Will and Testiment. In Wittness wherof I. haue hereunto sett my hand & seal. this 17th Day of Janur. In the 12th year of his Majestys Reign. Annoq. Domini 173$^{8}/_{9}$

"Signed sealed pronounced & declared by ye sd Samuel Thomson Testator to be his Last Will & Testament — Samll His + Mark Thomson (Seal)

In presens of us { Samll Whitman Junr. / Garshom Luis / Roger Hooker"

"Farmington March ye 3d. Day 173$^{8}/_{9}$: then Gershom Lewis. Doctr and Roger Hooker two of ye Wittnesses to ye aboue written. Instrument Came personally and made sollemn oath. that they saw Samuel Thomson the Testater. Signe and Seal. the aboue writting and heard him Declare ye same to be his Last will & Testament, and that att ye same time. In his presence. they with ye other Subcribing with them Entered theyer Names as Wittnesses thereto. then. Judging of him ye Testator to be of sound mind and memory

John Hooker Justis pacs"[64]

An inventory of his estate, taken February 23, 1738-9, was presented to the Probate Court on the same day as the will.

[64] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 13, reverse end, p. 131, and Probate Files, Samuel Thomson estate.

This showed real estate worth	£1002–00–00
including "land in waterbury bounds"	100–00–00
and personal estate amounting to	330–17–04
A total of	£1332–17–04.[65]

On the first Tuesday of September 1742 the administrators filed their account and the balance of the property was ordered distributed in accordance with the will. This was done one month later and the report was filed in court May 29, 1749.[66]

At some date, now unknown, Hannah, widow of Samuel Thomson, married, as his second wife, Captain Samuel Parker of Coventry, Connecticut.

She died August 2, 1753, aged 66 years, and was buried in the graveyard at South Coventry, now known as the "Nathan Hale Cemetery", where her gravestone is still to be seen.

April 9, 1753, "being sick & week in body", she made her last will and testament, which was sworn to at Coventry, August 28, following, and probated at Lebanon, December 4, of the same year.

The legatees under this will were her Thomson children, Samuel, Daniel, Thomas, and Barnabas; the children of her deceased son Ebenezer; her daughters Mary, wife of Samuel Woodford; Hannah, wife of Hezekiah Thomson; Anne, wife of Thomas Kingsbury; her grandchildren Hannah, wife of Daniel Upson; Elnathan Judd, Ruth Judd, Lucy Judd and the children of her deceased daughters, Ruth Judd and Bethiah Avered.[67]

Children of Samuel and Hannah (Lathrop) Thomson

Dau.	b. May 27, 1708;[68]		died June 4, 1708.[68]
Samuel	" Apr. 13, 1709,[69]	bap. May 8, 1709;[70]	living Apr. 9, 1753.[71]

[65] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 13, p. 45, and reverse end, p. 132.

[66] Ibid., vol. 14, pp. 9, 10, vol. 15, p. 100, and Probate Files, Samuel Thomson estate.

[67] Windham, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 4, "Probate 1750 to 1755", pp. 426, 430.

[68] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 125.

[69] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 98.

[70] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 38, p. 278.

[71] Windham, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 4, "Probate 1750 to 1755", pp. 426, 430, will of Hannah Lathrop (Thomson) Parker.

Ebenezer	b. Jan. 9, 1710-11;[69]	died between Oct. 1, 1742, and Apr. 9, 1753.[75]
Ruth	" Sept. 11, 1712;[72]	mar. Dec. 25, 1734, Joseph Judd, Jr.,[76] of Farmington, Conn.
Mary	" July 26, 1714;[73]	" Mar. 12, 1734-5, Samuel Woodford[76] of Farmington, Conn.
Daniel	" Aug. 9, 1716;[73]	living Apr. 9, 1753.[74]
Thomas	" Oct. 6, 1718;[73]	" Apr. 9, 1753,[74] in Woodbury, Conn.
Bethiah	" May 1, 1721;[73]	mar. Mar. 29, 1743, Reuben Avered[77] of Woodbury, Conn.
Barnabas	" Nov. 13, 1723;[73]	living Apr. 9, 1753.[74]
Hannah	" Aug. 30, 1725;[73]	mar. Sept. 20, 1744, Hezekiah Thomson[78] of Farmington, Conn.
Anne	" Mar. 1, 1728-9;[74]	" July 30, 174(5)? Thomas Kingsbury[79] of Coventry, Conn.

[72] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 232.

[73] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 70.

[74] Ibid., vol. 4, p. 396.

[75] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Samuel Thomson estate, and Windham, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 4, "Probate 1750 to 1755", pp. 426, 430, will of Hannah Lathrop (Thomson) Parker.

[76] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Samuel Thomson estate, and Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 5, p. 539.

[77] Cothren's History of Woodbury, Conn., vol. 3, p. 182, and Windham, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 4, "Probate 1750 to 1755", pp. 426, 430, will of Hannah Lathrop (Thomson) Parker.

[78] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 7, p. 46, and Windham, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 4, "Probate 1750 to 1755", pp. 426, 430, will of Hannah Lathrop (Thomson) Parker.

[79] Windham, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 4, "Probate 1750 to 1755", pp. 426, 430, will of Hannah Lathrop (Thomson) Parker, and Births, Marriages, Baptisms and Deaths in Coventry, Conn., 1711-1844, printed, pp. 149, 68.

THE FAMILY OF

THOMAS WELLES

On pages 264-266 of volume 24 of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register is printed a patent dated March 12, 1629, granting to Edward Hilton of Dover, New England, a tract of land at Hilton's Point on the south side of the "Pascataquack" River, now in the state of New Hampshire.

In November 1654, John Allen, Nicholas Shapleigh and Thomas Lake petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts Bay, stating among other things that,

"Mr. Hilton sold the land to some merchants of Bristol, [England], who had it in possession for about 2 years.

"The Lord Say, the Lord Brook, Sir Richard Saltonstall, Sir Arthur Haslerigg, Mr. Bosville, Mr. Wyllys, Mr. Whiting, Mr. Hewett and others bought the said land of Bristol merchants and they have paid £2150."[1]

The object of this petition was to have the court set out to Allen and his associates, a certain, definite part of the territory to which they were to hold the full title.

In May 1655, the court took action on the petition and the record of the court one year later, containing the report of the committee that made the division, shows that the interests in the patent comprised twenty-four and three-quarter shares. The committee divided the lands into three parts of eight and one-quarter shares each. One part was set to Nathaniel Gardener, Thomas Lake and partners; another to Captain Thomas Wiggan and partners, and the third part belonged "to the Shrewsbury men".[2]

Thomas Welles owned one share in this patent,[3] which, it is believed, he acquired while living in England, as there is no record in this country of his purchasing it.

[1] Provincial Papers, New Hampshire, vol. 1, p. 157.

[2] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 3, p. 394; vol. 4, part 1, p. 249, and vol. 3, pp. 409-411.

[3] Suffolk County, Mass., Deeds, vol. 1, p. 126.

The following extract from a letter written by him, April 16, 1639, at Hartford, Connecticut, to John Winthrop, Governor of Massachusetts Bay, is quite convincing that he must have been well acquainted while in England with the other owners in the patent, in order to have been selected with his friend and neighbor at Hartford, William Whiting, as agent of the patentees in this country:

"I am sory to heare you haue such ill neighbours at Pyscataqua, which I feare will proue the reseptacle of such persons as stand disaffected to this State.

"I should gladly be aduised by your Worship & my worthy ffryend Mr. Dudley, what I might doe for the preuention thereof; haueing the disposeing thereof committed to my trust (from the Company) with Mr. Whiting, if he bring no other directions at his returne from old Ingland, if your Worships aduise, yt may rest, as yt is so long:"[4]

The fact that these two men at so early a date were the agents of the patentees, strengthens the conjecture that Thomas Welles bought his share in the Piscataqua patent before coming to New England.

It would seem to be significant that Thomas Welles, William Whiting, and William Gibbons, steward of George Wyllys, another owner in the patent, all lived in Hartford near each other on the east side of Governor street and that George Wyllys resided across the way from them on his large estate.[5]

The latter, probably the wealthiest man in Hartford of his day, in his will dated December 14, 1644, made the following bequests:

"I doe giue vnto my loueing ffryends M^r^ ffenwicke Mr Heynes Mr Hopkins M^r^ welles M^r^ webster M^r^ whiting Capten Mason Mr Hooker Mr Stone & M^r^ wareham twenty shillings a peece as a token of my loue./[6]

These legatees were all men of prominence in the colony and it is worthy of notice that Mr. Welles is mentioned fourth in the list.

The first information that has been found in America concerning Thomas Welles is on the "Records of the Town and Select-

[4] Mass. Historical Society Collections, fourth series, vol. 6, p. 584.

[5] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", pp. 10, 5, 333, 7.

[6] Colonial Records of Connecticut, original vol. 1, pp. 233-236.

men of Cambridge." On page 6 of the original volume under date of "8th February 1635" is a list of

"The names of Those men whoe haue houses in the Towne at this present as onely are to be acconted as houses of the Towne."

The twenty-third name is that of "Tho Wells." In all probability he could not have long been a resident, for in the various lists of the inhabitants prior to this date, as entered on the Cambridge Records, his name does not appear.

This is the only mention of him in Cambridge and a study of various authorities leads to the belief that he was the Thomas Welles who had become a resident of Hartford, Connecticut, early in the following year.

In March 1635-'36 the General Court of Massachusetts Bay granted judicial and legislative authority to eight men, some of whom, if not all, had removed to the Connecticut valley, to govern the new plantations on the river for "one whole yeare from the date thereof."[7]

March 28, 1637, "Mr Welles" appears as one of the persons constituting the court which succeeded the original commission.[8]

He at once became one of the prominent men of the colony.

The first volume of Town Votes of Hartford, where he resided, shows his appointment on various committees with other inhabitants of high standing, but his most important duties were as one of the colonial officials.

It has been stated that Mr. Welles was one of the men at the head of the colonial government in March 1637. The records show that he was continued in office until April 1639, when he was one of five "chosen to assist in the Magistracy for the yeare ensueing" and by subsequent elections continuously until May 1654.[9]

At the election of 1639 he was chosen Treasurer and evidently served until April 1641, when "Mr. Whiting" was chosen in his place. The latter dying in 1647, Welles was again chosen in May 1648, and reëlected in 1649 and '50.[10] On the records of the session of October 1651 is this entry:

[7] Records of Massachusetts, vol. I, p. 170.

[8] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. I, p. 8.

[9] Ibid., vol. I, pp. 9, 11, 13, 17, 27, 46, 64, 71, 84, 103, 124, 137, 149, 163, 185, 207, 218, 230, 245, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252.

[10] Ibid., vol. I, pp. 27, 64, 163, 185, 207.

"Whereas vppon the motion of Mr. Wells, Treasurer, It was propounded that in regard hee being in the place of Magistrate, doth finde the execution of the Treasurers office to bee somewhat burdensome for both together, and there fore desires to bee eased of the Treasurers place, wch this Courte doth desire at the Courte of Election, maybee attended, and that they would thinke of some body else to bee Treasurer in his roome."[11]

In accordance with this vote "Mr. Tailecoate" was chosen at the meeting in the following May.[12]

In the record of the Court of Election held April 9, 1640, there is nothing to indicate who were elected Secretary and Treasurer.

Edward Hopkins was chosen Secretary in April 1639 and the entries in his handwriting end with the Particular Court held April 2, 1640.

The records of the General Court held April 9, 1641, show that Mr. Welles was elected Secretary.

As the records beginning with the Court of Election April 9, 1640, are in the same hand as those of the court held one year later, the inference is that Thomas Welles was first elected Secretary of the colony in April 1640, although as before stated, there is no record thereof. He remained Secretary of the colony until May 18, 1648, when John Cullick was chosen in his place, and the records are in Welles's hand up to and including the Particular Court of June 1, 1648, from which time his successor made the entries.[13]

John Haynes, Governor of the colony, died in March 1653-'54, and the Deputy Governor Edward Hopkins was in England. The records of the sessions of the General Court of March 1 and 6, 1653-'54, show "Mr Wells" as "Moderator" or acting Governor, and "Att an assembly of freemen, in Hartford, this 16th Febu: 1653"

"Mr Thomas Wells was chosen Moderator for the p^r^sent Generall Courte vnder adiourm^t^: & was invested with full power by them to call the next Generall Courte of Electyon."[14]

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[11] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 226.

[12] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 231.

[13] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 46, 27, 64, 84, 103, 124, 149, 163.

[14] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 250, 251, 252.

At the annual meeting of May 18, 1654, the absent Deputy Governor Edward Hopkins was promoted to the office of Governor and Welles was elected Deputy Governor. The records for that year show he presided at all the sessions of the court and was acting Governor.[15]

May 17, 1655, he was chosen to the highest office in the gift of the colony, that of Governor, and again in May 1658.[16]

One of the laws adopted in January 1638, "decreed that noe p^rson be chosen Gouernor aboue once in two yeares," consequently in 1656 he was elected Deputy Governor and reëlected to the latter office in 1657 and 1659.[17]

As one of the Magistrates he was frequently appointed by the General Court on committees of importance.

The Colonial Records show that September 10, 1639,

"Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Wells, Mr. Steele and Mr. Spencer were intreated to ripen some orders that were left vnfinished the former Court, as about p^rvition of settling of lands, testaments of the deceased, and recording spetiall passages of P^rvidence."[18]

Although this entry indicates former action on the subject, an examination of the records fails to disclose anything, probably because the subject was not brought to a definite conclusion.

It is unfortunate that these early Colonial Records are not more complete.

The statement is made in the printed first volume of the Colonial Records that in the original manuscript volume, pages 12 to 22 are blank,[19] making a gap in the records from April 5, 1638, to April 11, 1639, one whole year.

Sessions of the court were doubtless held during that period as evidenced from an entry made December 13, 1638, by John Winthrop in his History of New England, where he mentions John Haynes, William Pynchon and John Steele as being sent by the General Court of Connecticut to confer with the authorities of Massachusetts Bay about matters in dispute.[20] These men

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[15] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 256, 259, 261, 264, 272.
[16] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 273, 314.
[17] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 22, 280, 297, 334.
[18] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 34.
[19] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 20.
[20] History of New England, by John Winthrop, 1853, vol. 1, pp. 342-343.

must have been appointed at some court in that period when its doings were not recorded.

Further evidence of the neglect of the Secretary to perform his duties, is the fact that the Fundamental Orders which were adopted January 14, 1638-9, are entered on the records in the handwriting of Thomas Welles who did not become Secretary until April 1640.

In 1639 Roger Ludlow, the Deputy Governor, had made a trip to "Pequannocke", and had taken action in regard to a "Plantacon beyond", which did not meet the approval of the General Court.

At a session of that court held October 10, 1639, "Mr. Governo[r] and Mr. Wells" were appointed a committee to visit the region, make a thorough investigation of affairs, and report to the court at its next session.[21]

April 9, 1640, "Mr. Haynes, Mr. Ludloe & Mr. Welles" were appointed a committee to determine the bounds between

"Paquanocke [now Bridgeport] & Uncowaye" [Fairfield], . . . "And also that they tender the Oath of Fidelity to the Inhabitants of the said Townes, and make such free as they shall aproue of."[22]

Nothing final seems to have been done and in February 1640-'41 the court ordered

"that Mr. Heynes, Mr. Wells and Captain Mason shall goe downe to Paqunuacke, to settle the bownds betwixt them and the Plantations on boath sids them, according as they judge equall, as also to heare and determin the difference betwixt the inhabitants of Cuphege, (Stratford village), amongst thēselues."[23]

"Capten Mason and Mr. Welles" were to hold a Court of Justice at Stratford and Vncoway (Fairfield), in April 1643,[24] and in October 1653, Mr. Welles, Mr. Ludlow and two others were "desired to keepe a perticuler Courte at Farfield, before winter".[25]

December 1, 1642,

"The Gou[r], Mr. Heynes, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Welles & Mr. Phelps are desiered to consider wth the Elders, conserneing the synns of Curseing

[21] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 35, 36.
[22] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 46, 47.
[23] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 58, 62.
[24] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 84, 86.
[25] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 248, 249.

father or mother, Incorigiblenes, Rauishement, Contempt of Ordinances, Lying, and Brech of p^rmise, and to make some lawes ag^t thē & p^rsent thē to the next Generall Courte."[26]

Connecticut, like Massachusetts, though in a lesser degree, had its early history stained by the witchcraft delusion.

In 1651, "Goody Bassett" of Stratford was on trial "for her life".

"The Gouerno^r, Mr. Cullick and Mr. Clarke are desired to goe downe to Stratford to keepe Courte" . . . . "and if the Gouerno^r cannott goe, then Mr. Wells is to goe in his roome."[27]

It is not known whether Mr. Welles attended this court as the records of the trial are not preserved.

The records of a Particular Court held at Hartford, February 20, 1650-'51, show that he was a member of the court that tried John Carrington and wife Joanna of Wethersfield for witchcraft.[28] The verdict of the court was that they were both guilty.

In December 1644 Saybrook was ceded to Connecticut, and its rights as an independent colony ceased.

In view of this fact, the records of the Connecticut General Court held May 13, 1645, show that

"It is desiered that the Gou^r, Mr. Deputy, Mr. Fenwicke, Mr. Whiting and Mr. Welles should agitate the busines concerneing the enlardgement of the libertyes of the Patent for this Jurisdiction".[29]

In the agreement made with Mr. George Fenwick for the purchase of the Saybrook Colony, payments were to be made in corn. In December 1648 the General Court, fearing that so much corn might be sent out of the colony as to interfere with these payments,

"For the prevention wherof, it is ordered, that the Treasurer shall send out warrants seasonably to the Constables of each Towne vppon the Riuer within this Jurissdiction, for the gathering or otherwise securing of the aforesaid Corne for Mr. Fenwick, by the first of March; that it may bee in readines, when called for, according to order and couenant, by Mr. Fenwick or his assigne; and Mr. Wells for Wethersfeild,

[26] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 77, 80.
[27] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 218, 220.
[28] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 17.
[29] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 126.

Mr. Webster for Hartford, and Mr. Woollcott for Wyndsor, are desired to call vppon the Constables in their seuerall Townes, for the returne of their warrants by the aforesaid first of March."[30]

March 14, 1648,

"The Court desires Mr. Wells and Mr. Cullick to draw vp in writing the whole agreement with Mr. Fenwick, and Mr. Hopkins, about Seabrooke, and that the counterpart thereof vnder Mr. Hopkins his hand, may bee kept and recorded by the Secretary of the Courte."[31]

In 1648 John Whitmore of Stamford was murdered by the Indians, and the General Court in September 1649,

"taking into serious consideracon what may bee done according to God in way of reuenge of the bloude of John Whittmore, . . . doe declare themselues that they doe judge it lawfull and according to God to make warr vponn them."[32]

The same month they ordered that forty-five soldiers should be raised for the expedition, and appointed a committee, one of whom was "Mr. Wells", "for the ordering of the setting forth of theise souldgers for ammunition and provision".[33]

The dangers to which the early settlers of Connecticut were exposed resulting in the Pequot War of 1637 evidently showed them the need of some form of union with the other New England Colonies as a means of protection against the common enemy. On page 5 of the second volume of the New Haven Colonial Records is an entry which shows that in 1638 a meeting was held in Cambridge, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, to consider the subject of such an alliance, but no definite action was taken.

At a session of the General Court of Connecticut held in Hartford, August 8, 1639,

"Mr. Governo^{r}, Mr. Deputy and Mr. Wells, or any two of them, are intreated to goe to the Rivers mouth to consult with Mr. Fenwicke about a treaty of combinacon wch is desi[red] againe to be on foott with the Bay."[34]

At this date the Saybrook Colony, in which Mr. Fenwick was the principal owner, had not been purchased by Connecticut.

[30] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 169, 170.
[31] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 178.
[32] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 195, 197.
[33] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 197, 198.
[34] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 29, 30.

One week later the committee reported that they "had repayred to Mr. Fennicke according to the direction of the Court", and "he is willing the State here should p^rceed to a mutuall agreement for an offenciue and defenciue warr and all other offices of loue".[35]

Among the records of a session of the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony which was opened on the 8th of September, 1642, is found this entry:

"The magistrates in & neare Boston, wth the deputies of Boston, Charlestowne, Cambridg, Watertowne, Roxberry, Dorchester, or the greater part of them, are appointed to bee a comittē to treate wth any comissionrs from Plimoth, Coñectecot, or Newe Haven, about the union, & concerning avoyding any danger of the Indians, & to have power to do hearin what they shall find needfull for comon safety & peace, so as they enter not into an offencive warr w^thout order of this Courte./"[36]

In accordance with this vote, representatives from the colonies of Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth, Connecticut and New Haven, agreed in May 1643 on articles of confederation.

It was agreed that these four independent governments should, in the interests of peace and mutual protection, combine "and henceforth bee called by the name of the Vnited Colonies of New England."[37]

In May 1648 the General Court appointed the Governor and Deputy Governor as Commissioners of the United Colonies, "and in case ether of thē shalbe p^ruented by sicknes or otherwise, Mr. Welles is desiered to supply the place."[38]

He was actually chosen to this office of honor and grave responsibility in May 1649, 1654 and 1659.[39]

Acting under the recommendations of the Commissioners of the United Colonies, the General Court of Connecticut, in May 1653, ordered the raising of a body of sixty-four men as Connecticut's quota of the forces to be sent against the Dutch settlements. A committee from each town with its Constables, acting together, had charge of "the pressing of men for this present

[35] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 31.
[36] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 2, pp. 22, 31.
[37] Plymouth Colony Records, vol. IX, pp. 3-8.
[38] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 163, 164.
[39] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 185, 187, 256, 257, 334.

expedition." Mr. Welles was one of a committee of three for Wethersfield.[40]

In September 1654, the Commissioners of the United Colonies decided upon war against the Narragansett Indians and fixed the quota of Connecticut's forces as forty-five. In the following month the General Court of Connecticut took action thereon and appointed a committee

"to press men and necessaryes in each Towne, for this expedityon."[41]

March 7, 1654-'55, the General Court fixed the pay of the soldiers and

"This Courte desires Mr. Wells & Nath: Dickerson, for Wethersfield; . . . . to receive, allowe & signe to the Treasurer, such bills of debts from ye Country to any perticular person as shall bee brought in to them in theire severall Townes."[42]

Upon coming to Connecticut he became an original proprietor and land holder of Hartford.

On page 10 of the "Book of Distributions", the earliest volume of Land Records, is this entry:

"Feb: Anno: Dom: 1639."

"Several parcels of land in Hartford, on the River of Connecticut, belonging to Mr. Thomas Wells, and to his heirs forever, viz:"

"One parcel on which his dwelling house now standeth, with other outhouses, yards or gardens therein being, containing by estimation, seven acres and two roods, more or less, viz: two acres for a house lot, and two acres two roods of upland, and three acres of meadow, abutting on Mr. Hopkinses meadow on the north and east, and on Mr. Whitings land and on Thomas Osmers land on the south, and on the highway leading from William Hillses to the Ox Pasture on the west, and on Mr. Webster's house lot on the north."[43]

On the map of "Hartford in 1640" drawn by William S. Porter, as found in the "Memorial History of Hartford County" and other historical publications, the Welles homestead is located

[40] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 240, 241, 242, 243.

[41] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 261, 262, 263.

[42] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 272, 273.

[43] As the leaves in the first part of the "Book of Distributions" had become badly worn, Nathaniel Goodwin the antiquary, many years since, made a transcript of these pages, although not following the ancient methods of spelling, capitalization and punctuation. The Welles record is one of those transcribed by him.

on the east side of Governor street, near its junction with the present Wyllys street.

In addition to this homestead, there were recorded to Thomas Welles various pieces of land situated on both sides of the "Great River" aggregating over one hundred acres.

He, in company with John Haynes, Samuel Wyllys, Edward Hopkins, John Talcott, John Webster and others, his friends and fellow residents of Hartford, was an original proprietor of Tunxis or Unxus Sepos, which in 1645 received the name of Farmington.

The Colony Records show that he owned in Farmington a home-lot of six acres with a dwelling house thereon: one hundred acres of plowing land and thirty acres of meadow.[44]

It is most likely that he never resided in Farmington and he did not long own property there.

May 16, 1646, as a resident of Hartford, he conveyed to his daughter Anne and her husband Thomas Thomson of Hartford one-half of his real estate in Farmington.[45]

By 1650 he had conveyed the other half to his son John.[44]

Nothing is known as to the first wife of Thomas Welles, the mother of his children. On page 457 of the printed first volume of the Colonial Records of Connecticut is given the will of "Blaynche" Hunt, in which she made bequests to "my Cossen Mary Robins"[46] and "my Cossen Mary Baylding" and appointed "my Vnckle Welles my Executor".

The will is not dated, but following it on the record is an inventory of her estate taken September 20, 1644, by "Andrewe Waird" and "Will' Gybbins".

The statement has been made that William Gibbons was a friend and near neighbor of Thomas Welles in Hartford. It is

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[44] Conn. Colonial Land Records, vol. 1, last part, folio 8.

[45] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 3, p. 138.

[46] This probably was Mary, wife of John Robbins, head of the Wethersfield family of that name, and the Wethersfield Records state that she died about the middle of September 1659.

Not quite two months later, or Nov. 7, 1659, Thomas Welles made his will, in which he gave £10 "to my Cossen Robins Children", indicating that the mother was dead at that time.

The inference is that the "Mary Robins" mentioned in Blanche Hunt's will and "Cossen Robins" named in Thomas Welles's will were one and the same person.

suspected that Thomas Welles was the uncle of Blanche Hunt and that she was living in his family at this time.

Some writers have inferred that Thomas Welles's first wife was a Hunt by birth, and some have even stated that her name was Elizabeth Hunt.

Thus far no record in New England has been discovered regarding her and nothing is known as to the date of her death.

Thomas Welles must have removed from Hartford to Wethersfield between May 16, 1646, and October 10 of that year.

His removal was probably due to his marriage to ELIZABETH, widow of Nathaniel FOOTE, one of the settlers of Wethersfield.

An inventory of the estate of Nathaniel Foote of Wethersfield was taken November 20, 1644, which showed that he left a widow and several children.[47]

On October 10, 1646, Thomas Welles, then of Wethersfield, deeded all his interest in the dwelling house of the deceased Nathaniel Foote to the latter's son Nathaniel.[48]

From other records it is proved that Thomas Welles married Elizabeth, widow of Nathaniel Foote,[49] and the sale October 10, 1646, by him of his interest in the Foote property would indicate that the marriage took place before that date.

He may have lived temporarily with his second wife on the Foote property and it is significant that until the date of the sale of his interest in the Foote homestead, no house or lands are recorded to him in Wethersfield.

October 10, 1646, the day when he conveyed his interest in the Foote property, this entry appears on modern page 160 of the first volume of Wethersfield Land Records:

> "The Eyght month the tenth day of the month 1646
> Record The lands of Mr Wells wh he bought of Mr Plum
> lying in Wethersffeild on Conecticot Riuer"

"One pece wheron his house standeth con eyghteene acr more or lesse It Abutts against the Fort street south and the land of the widow masons North and the house lotts of Mr Swain Rich: Gildersleue and George Hubberd east and penywise west"

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[47] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 461-463.

[48] Wethersfield, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, folio 88.

[49] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 461-463, inventory, etc., of Nathaniel Foote estate; Wethersfield, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, folio 88, deed of Thomas Welles's interest in Nathaniel Foote homestead, and Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, pp. 158-159, will of Elizabeth Foote Welles.

This homestead is part of the property now owned by the State of Connecticut, on which is located the State prison.

Besides this, he had two pieces in the Great Meadow, of eighteen and seven acres, respectively, ninety acres in the West Field, thirty-four acres of Wet Swamp and four acres in the Beaver Meadow.

In 1644 the Commissioners of the United Colonies made a recommendation that the authorities of the various colonies take steps to raise contributions for the aid of Harvard College.

In response to this recommendation, the General Court of Connecticut on the 25th of October 1644,

"Ordered that 2 men shalbe appoynted in euery Towne wthin this Jurisdiction, who shall demaund what euery family will giue, and the same to be gathered and brought into some roome, in March; and this to continue yearely as yt shalbe considered by the Com̃issio^{rs}.

"The p^{r}sons to demand what will be giuen are"

. . . . . .

"ffor Wethersfield Mr Trott M^{r} wells"[50]

An examination of the original record shows that the entry of this meeting is in the handwriting of the Colonial Secretary Thomas Welles, except the name "wells" which was added by John Cullick who succeeded him as Secretary in May 1648.[51]

It has been shown that Thomas Welles did not remove to Wethersfield until after May 1646, therefore the addition by Cullick of the name "wells" to the record of October 25, 1644, could not have been made until 1646 and possibly was not made until 1648 when Cullick succeeded Welles as Colonial Secretary.

Reference has been made to a letter from Thomas Welles to John Winthrop, Governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, which is printed in the Massachusetts Historical Society Collections, fourth series, volume 6, pages 583-584, and as it treats of matters at Piscataqua, it is herewith given in full:

"To the Right Worshipfull Mr. Wynthroppe Gouernour at the Bay present these.

"Right Worshipfull,— I cannot but condemne my selfe of great ingratitude, in this my so long sylence, after the receipte of many free and vndesearued fauors from your Worship, for all which I haue not yet any oportunity to expresse my thankefull acknowledgement thereof,

[50] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 112.

[51] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 163.

but by these fewe lynes, wherein I desire humbly to present my harty & vnfeigned thanks vnto you, as for all other manifestations of your loue, so for your great care & troble in restoreing vnto me my searuaunt out of the pawes of those desperat deluded cretures at the Iland, wherein he was fearefully intangled and insnared; a deliuerance for which both he, and all his frynds, are euer bound to giue thanks to Almighty God, who made your Worship so happy a instrument as to accomplishe the same. What chardges ether your selfe, or any by order from you haue disbursed, I shall most gladly satisfie. My deare ffryend, Mr. Bellingham, sent me word that he paid for his passage by water, the which I shall thankefully repay at his comming to Conectecott, which he hath appoynted before his returne to the Bay.

"I am sory to heare you haue such ill neighbours at Pyscataqua, which I feare will proue the reseptacle of such persons as stand disaffected to this State. I should gladly be aduised by your Worship & my worthy ffryend Mr. Dudley, what I might doe for the preuention thereof; haueing the disposeing thereof committed to my trust (from the Company) with Mr. Whiting, if he bring no other directions at his returne from Old Ingland, if your Worships aduise, yt may rest, as yt is so long: thus craueing pardon for my boldnes, I humbly take my leaue, & rest,

At your Worships searuice to be commaunded

Tho: Welles."

"Hartford, this 16th of Aprill, 1639."

On page 126 of volume 1 of Suffolk County, Mass., Deeds, are entered two deeds to Christopher Lawson of Boston, both dated August 29, 1648. One is from "Mary Willis" of Hartford, and the other from "Thomas Wells" of Wethersfield, each party conveying "for good & valueable consideration,"

"one twenty foure or twenty fifth part or share of the two Patents at Pascataq comonly knowne by the names of Swamscot & Dover, together wth the like share of all the goods & chattles there vnto appertaineing, ... only the Guns and debts excepted".

Both these deeds were witnessed by Roger Ludlow, the Deputy Governor, and John Haynes, then one of the Magistrates who had been Governor.

If the records kept by the patentees could be discovered, possibly a clue might be found to the residence of Thomas Welles prior to his appearance in America.

There is nothing on the Wethersfield Records to indicate that he held any town offices while residing there. Probably he was too busily occupied with weightier affairs as a colonial official.

It is reasonable, however, to infer that his advice was sought when perplexing questions of town and church arose, as was the case in the following matter:

"March the 24 58:59:"

.....

"it was Voted by the Toune that Mr Tratt John deming Samuell wells Mr Chester Samuell Borman should be a comitte to procure a setled and an aproved minister.

"it was alsoe voted that they should intreate the advise of Mr Wels Govr and Mr Stone of Harford and intreate theire helpe in the case".[52]

After many years of honorable service,

"Mr Tho welles the Deputty Gour Decesed January 14th 1659".[53]

John Winthrop, Junior, Governor of Connecticut, in a letter to his son Wait, dated "Hartf: Apr: 3: 1660", wrote,

"I received your letter by Edward Messinger. The Lord be praised who hath kept you there and vs heere that we may have cause [to] reioyce in his goodnesse.

"Your mother is now (God be praised) cōfortably well, but was very ill by turnes divers weekes, since we heard of the childs death. We have had some sad providences heere, both in the death of Mr Wells the deputy Govr. who died about 11 weekes since, very suddainly, being very well at supper and dead before midnight, and now lately in the death of Mr. Talcot, one of our magistrates who died the 23 of ye former month, March. Both are much and worthily lamēted."[54]

April 11, 1660, the last will and testament of Thomas Welles was presented to the Particular Court at Hartford.

The following copy is taken from the original, which is preserved among the files of the Hartford Probate Court:

"Nouēber the 7th 1659."

"I Tho: Welles of Wethersfield being in health of body but fynding the symtons of mortallity vppon me am called to sett in Order that little Estate cōmitted to me and as I have receaued what I am or haue from the deuine hand of allmighty god so I cōmitte my soull to him resting vppon his ffree grace and fauor manifested through the Lord Iesus, and my body to a comly buriall,

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[52] Wethersfield, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, original folio 17, modern p. 58.

[53] Wethersfield, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, original folio 9, modern p. 39.

[54] Massachusetts Historical Society Collections, fifth series, vol. 8, p. 58. An examination of the calendar shows that Welles's death occurred Saturday evening.

"My will is that my wife should enioy the on halfe of my Howseing & orchard & twelue pownd p annu out of my Estate dureing her life shee keepeing the said howseing in Repaire and that the land wch I had of her should returne to her agayne, also I giue her the bay mare & two kyne to be sett forth by my Ouerseers, and that howshold stuffe wch remaynes that was formerly hers, and the vse of such Implements of howshold dureing the tyme she remaynes a wyddowe as my Ouerseers shall sett.

"Also I giue to my granchild Robert welles the sonne of my sonne Iohn diceased the Howse & Lott I liue vppon wch I bought of Mr Plume & penny wise to the crost fence on the south side dureing his life, and w^n^. he shall haue attayned the age of one and Twenty yeares, and after his Decease to his heires for euer,

"And wheras ther yet remaynes a little howshold stuffe wch I thought to haue deuided betwixt my Children, I now conceiue yt more conuenient that it remayne to my heire Robert welles, he paying in conuenient tyme, as my Owerseers shall find him able, twenty pownd a piece to my Children. Viz^t^ Tho: 20^li^, Samuell 20^li^, My Daughter Maryes Children 20^li^, Anne 20^li^, & Sarah 20^li^, and ten pownd to my Cossen Robins Children,[55]

"my Iuste debts being first paid, I giue my ffarme on the East side the great Riuer to be deuided betwixt my sonne Samuell & my granchild Tho: welles sonne to my sonne Iohn Deceased, and I giue to my sonne Tho: welles my meadow & swampe in penny wise on the north side of the fence, and also that fower acres of swampe wch I bought of Nath. willit, & my vpland on the East side the great Riuer by m^r^ Hopkins ffarme w^th^out the ffence haueing sold that wth in the fence to Capten Cullike, & giuen sixe Roode in bredth & the whole length to Ed: Androws

"And I desire my loueing ffryends Mr Iohn Talcoat sen: & Mr Cotton Techer att wethersfield to be the Ouerseers of this my will & giue the fiue pownd a peece out of my Estate. and so long as my loueing wife remayne a wyddowe shee may enjoy & Improue my whole Estate if my Ouerseers Iudge yt meet, they Discheardgeing out of yt, my iust debts & takeing in the debts oweing to me & mayntayneing my heayer in lewe of her twelue pownd £ and that shee may keepe the better hospitallity"

"In wittnesse to this my Will I haue hereunto sett my hand the day & yeare aboue written"

Tho: Welles.

"The Will of Th: Wells Esqr within specified was Exhibited and proued and ordered to be Recorded Ap^r^ll: 11. 1660 The Court Doth

[55] "Cossen Robins" was probably the wife of John Robbins of Wethersfield. See footnote to the will of Blanche Hunt, page 229 of this sketch.

iudge y^t^ those words (The one halfe) in referenc to ye house should haue relation to ye Orchy^r^d likewise:

"Willm Wadsworth and John Deming are apointed by the Court to Assist Mr John Cotton as Supervisors of ye Will and Administrators to ye Estate of Tho: Wells Esqr and w^t^ any two of them shal doe shalbe accounted Authentick respecting the Excetution of the Will of the said Esqr deceasd"

"Ap^r^ll 11 1660" "Daniell Clarke Sec^r^try"

The will is wholly in the handwriting of the testator. The penmanship of this document, the records kept by him as Colonial Secretary and his ownership of Latin as well as English books, as disclosed by the inventory of his estate, all indicate that Thomas Welles was liberally educated.[56]

"An Inventory of the lands, goodes and Chattells of Thomas Welles Esquire of Wethersfield upon Connecticott in New England, lately deceased taken and prized, the 30th of January, 1659, by us whose names are here subscribed."

"In the Parlor"

	L S D
"A Bed boulster pillows and other furniture for biddinge	10–00–00
It A linen cubberd	01–05–00
It a Drawinge table	01–10–00
A round table	000–15–00
Two Joynd chaires six turnd chaires	01–00–00
six Cushions	00–18–00
A linsey woolsey Carpett	00–10–00
A list Carpet	001–02–00
Two linsey woolsey Curtains	00–03–00
In Books English and Latine	02–10–00
A Chest	00–05–00
In Plate one silver beere boule one wine cup one dram cup seven silver spoones	06–00–00
In Apparell	20–00–00
In Table linen and towells	04–00–00
A sadle and Bridle	01–00–00
A fire pan tongs a paire of Andirons	00–10–00
In wompom peige	06–04–00
In a beavor skin and otter skin	00–10–00
	58–02–00

[56] A Thomas Welles, plebeian, of Bedfordshire, aged 18, matriculated at Hart Hall, Oxford, England, November 2, 1621, and received the degree of B.A., January 26, 1623-4. See Alumni Oxonienses, by Joseph Foster, Oxford, 1892, vol. 3, p. 1597.

In the hall	
One Table and fourme	00–06–00
One fire lock. fowlinge peice	01–00–00
five macth lock Musquetts	02–10–00
Two swords	00–08–00
In the Pantree	
An Old clocke	01–00–00
An hundred pound of shott	01–13–04
A paire of stilliards	00–16–00
four thousand of nailes	02–00–00
Eight pound of pouder	01–00–00
Twenty pound of sugar	00–10–00
six rub stones	00–02–00
In the Entry one Chest	00–05–00
	11–10–04
In the kitchin Chamber	
A bed and other furniture	05–00–00
In the menservants chamber	
A bed sheets and other furniture	02–10–00
In English goods	
Penistons Bayes kersies and other goods	44–16–10
In the kitchin	
In pewter brasse and other household stuffe	09–10–06
In the backhouse	
In brasse and Iron house hold stuffe and other necessaries	07–06–00
In the sellar	
In porke bacon beere barrells and other things	14–04–00
In the staire case	
In wooll and flax	01–02–00
In the porch chamber	
two chaires a litle table	00–11–06
In the garret	
two netts	00–13–00
In Cattell	167–10–00
In Carts plowes and working tooles	04–00–00
In housinge and land at Wethersfield	400–00–00
In a farme on the East side the great river	80–00–00
In meadow at penny wise and land over the river by m^{r} Hopkins farme and 4 acres of swamp	40–00–00

In bills bonds and depts due from severall persons	150–00–00
A canoe, part of a Boate, saw and measuring chaine	02–12–00
In Corne	70–00–00
	1069–08–02"

"John Cotton
John Deminge"[57]

Goodwin, in his "Genealogical Notes," states that Governor Welles's widow Elizabeth died July 28, 1683.[58] No authority is given for this statement, and an examination fails to disclose the source from which it was derived.

March 28, 1678, she made a will in which appears this clause:

"Being Stricken in yeares & in expectation of my solemne Change but of Good & perfect memorie blessed be allmighty God, for the seteling of that Temporall Estate God hath lent me, & that peace may be continued amongst my relations when I am gathered to my Fathers doe make constitute & ordain & declare this to be my last will & Testament".

August 16, 1682, she made a codicil, and an inventory of her estate was taken September 3, 1683.

As all the property was given to the descendants of herself and her first husband, Nathaniel Foote,[59] no extracts are made from the will.

CHILDREN OF THOMAS AND WELLES

JOHN	b.	removed to Stratford, Conn. and married Elizabeth Bourne.
THOMAS	"	mar. June 23, 1654, widow Hannah Pantry[60] and lived in Hartford, Conn.
MARY	"	" and died before Nov. 7, 1659.[61]

[57] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Thomas Welles estate.

[58] Genealogical Notes of some of the first settlers of Connecticut and Massachusetts, by Nathaniel Goodwin, 1856, p. 250.

[59] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Elizabeth Welles estate.

[60] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 24.

[61] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 135, Thomas Welles will.

ANN	b.	mar. 1,	Apr. 14, 1646, Thomas Thomson[64] of Hartford and Farmington, Conn.
		2,	Anthony Howkins[65] of Farmington, Conn.
SARAH	" about 1631;[62]	"	Feb. 1653, John Chester[66] of Wethersfield, Conn.
SAMUEL	" perhaps before 1637;[63]	"	1, before 1660, Elizabeth Hollister.[67]
		2,	Hannah Lamberton[68] and lived in Wethersfield, now Glastonbury, Conn.

The above order of births is not positively known and this arrangement may not be wholly correct.

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[62] She was 67 at her death in December 1698. Gravestone in Wethersfield Cemetery, and Wethersfield, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, folio 77.

[63] Made a freeman May 21, 1657. Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 297.

[64] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 22.

[65] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 95.

[66] Wethersfield, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, folio 77.

[67] Wethersfield, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 30.

[68] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 3, p. 157, Samuel Welles estate.

THE FAMILY OF
JOHN STEELE

In 1891 the writer of this sketch accompanied Mr. Henry F. Waters, the well-known antiquary, on a trip to England in the interest of genealogical research. While there, part of the time was spent in searching the church records of Essex County. On Friday, September 11, Mr. Waters and myself visited the parish of Fairstead, and on examining the records Mr. Waters found this significant entry:

"John Steele (son of Richard) of this parish and Rachel Talcott of Brancktree were married 10 October 1622"

The following record also appears on the Fairstead register and may refer to a child of John and Rachel Steele:

"Rachel Steele daughter of John Steele baptised 29 June 1632"

JOHN STEELE is believed to have emigrated to New England soon after the baptism of this child. Unfortunately, the name of the vessel in which he sailed for, and the date of his arrival in, New England, are not known.

On page 4 of the printed Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge are several votes under the date of "7th of January 1632" regarding the building of houses in the town. Immediately following these votes is a record showing the proportion each inhabitant was to build of the common pale or fence. In this list John Steele was to build fourteen rods and George Steele six rods.

They were also among those residents to whom there were "Lotts Granted for Cowyardes" on "The 5th August 1633"[1]. John Steele was given three roods and George Steele one-half an acre.

Among the other residents of Cambridge at this date was his brother-in-law, John Talcott, who was one of the party which emigrated with Thomas Hooker to the Connecticut valley.

[1] Records of the Town and Selectmen of Cambridge, 1630-1703, p. 5.

May 24, 1663, George Steel, then of Hartford, made his will, in which appears this clause:

"I giue unto my deare & loueing Brother John Steel fifty Shillings"[2]

John Talcott of Hartford, in his will dated August 12, 1659, also remembered the Steele family as follows:

"my mynd is that if my kensman John Skiner & my kinswoman Sara stell or ether of them shall be Liueing weth me in sarues at my Departur this Liufe: that thay shall haue payd each of them soe Liueing weth me ten pounds"[3]

"John Tailecot of Brainctrie", Essex County, England, made his will in 1604, which was proved January 24 of the same year. In it he made provision for his wife, Anne, son John, daughters Rachel, Anne, Mary, Grace and Sara, and mentioned his "father in law, William Skynner, and Robert Tailcot my brother".[4]

Talcott's widow married Moses Wall, also of Braintree. The latter made his will September 16, 1623, which was proved the following January, and in it mentioned his wife Anne, and gave

"unto John Talkatt, my son in law, and to Rachel Taylcott and to Sara Taylcott, my daughters in law, five pounds apiece"[5]

Since the foregoing was written, Mr. Lothrop Withington, the antiquary of London, has had the good fortune to find the will of Ann Wall, widow, of Felstead.

It is dated January 1636-7 and was proved by the executor on May 25 following.

In substance, it is as follows:

I give to my son John Talcott £16.
To my daughter Sarah, wife of William Wadsworth, £14.
To my daughter Rachel, wife of John Steele, £14.
If any of my said children die before receiving their legacies, they shall be paid to their children.
To John and Mary, children of my said son Talcot, 40s. apiece.
To such children of my said daughter Sarah as were born at Braintree and are now living, 40s. apiece.
To Samuel, Daniel, and Rachel, children of my daughter Steele, 40s. apiece.
To each of my said children, a silver bowl.

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[2] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 3, reverse end, p. 11.
[3] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, will of John Talcott.
[4] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 50, p. 134.
[5] Ibid., vol. 50, p. 139.

To my daughter Lydia, wife of Martin Holbeach, clerk, £5; already delivered by me to my son Holbeach, and £20, and to the said Martin, 20 nobles to buy him books.
To my daughter Mary, wife of Robert Aylett of Braintree, clothier, my messuage in Braintree in the occupation of Samuel Smyth, with remainder at her decease to her eldest son Thomas Aylett, charged with the payment of £10 to John Steele, son of my daughter Rachel.
To the said Thomas Aylett, and John and Mary Aylett, other children of my said daughter, 5 marks apiece at 21.
To the said Robert Aylett, 20 nobles.
To William Goodwyn, late clothier, 20s.
To John Clarke, late weaver, 20s.
To Sarah Bowles, my late servant, 20s.
To Edward Stebbing, 10s.
To Mr. Wharton, 20s.
To Mr. Bedle, 20s.
To Mr. Daniel Rogers, £3, to his daughter Sarah Rogers, 20s.
To my sister Gill, 40s.
To John, son of my brother John Skynner, 10s.
To John, son of my brother Richard Skynner, 10s.
To Hannah Houchin, if she be servant at my death, 40s.
To Nathaniel Hayes, 20s., and 20s. apiece to John Marvill's wife and to John Maldon and his wife.
To the poor of Braintree, 40s.
To the poor of Felstead, 30s.
I make my son Moses Wall, clerk, my sole executor, to whom I give £100, my double silver salt, etc.[6]

Among the freemen made at a session of the General Court of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, held May 14, 1634, were John Steele and George Steele.[7]

"Att a Gen^rall Court, holden att Newe Towne, March 4th, 1634" among the Deputies present was John Steele. He also served in the same capacity at the sessions of May 6 and September 2, 1635.[8]

Although John Steele had become a resident of Cambridge in 1633 no record of his lands was made until two years later. On original page 13 of the Proprietors' Records of the Town of Cambridge is this entry:

"The 20th August 1635"

"John Steele in the Towne one house with Garden and backside aboute halfe a Roode: Georg Steele one the north west Braintree street one

[6] Archdeaconry of Middlesex (Essex & Herts), Bundle "Dean" No. 233.
[7] Records of Massachusetts, vol. 1, pp. 368, 369.
[8] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 135, 145, 156.

the northeast Crooked street one the southeast william wadsworth one the southwest"

Besides the homestead, he had lands in "Cowyarde Rowe", "ould ffeild", "West end ffeild", "necke of Land", "oxe Marsh", "Longe Marsh" and "greate Marsh".[9]

On original page 15 of this volume is an entry dated 28 August, 1635, which shows that "John Steele of the New towne" sold to Robert Bradish

"in considerac of a some of monny paid by Robert Bradish have sould and past over all that right title and Intrest wch he hath in all his parcells of land lyeing and beeing in Newtowne aforesad as may appeare by a bargen and sale vnder the hand of the sd John Steele"

On the records of a General Court of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay begun March 3, 1635-6, is found this entry:

"Whereas, vpon some reason & grounds, there are to remove from this o^{r} comonwealth & body of the Mattachusetts in America dyv[^{r}s] of o^{r} loveing ffriends, neighb^{r}s, ffreemen & members of Newe Towne, Dorchest^{r}, Waterton, & other places, whoe are resolved to transplant themselues & their estates vnto the Ryver of Coñecticott, there to reside & inhabite, & to that end dyv^{rs} are there already, & dyv^{rs} others shortly to goe, wee, in this present Court assembled, on the behalfe of o^{r} said memb^{rs}, & John Winthrop, Junr, Esq, Goun^{r}, appoyncted by certaine noble personages & men of quallitie interesed in the sayd ryv^{r}, wch are yet in England, on their behalfe, ...

.....

"wee therefore thinke mee[te], & soe order, that Roger Ludlowe, Esq, Willm Pinchon, Esq, John Steele, Willm Swaine, Henry Smyth, Willm Phe[lpes], Willm Westwood, & Andrewe Ward, or the greater p̄te of them, shall have full power & aucthoritie"

to hold court, to pass orders for the settlement and protection of the new towns and to call the inhabitants together in a legislative body,

"provided, alwayes, that this comission shall not extende any longer time then one whole yeare from the date thereof"[10]

It is surmised that at this date Steele was among those persons who had already removed, as we find his name with four others mentioned in the commission as holding the first recorded court on Connecticut soil, April 26, 1636.[11]

[9] Proprietors' Records of the Town of Cambridge, 1635-1829, original pp. 13, 14.

[10] Records of Massachusetts, vol. I, pp. 170-171.

[11] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. I, p. 1.

The Hartford Records show that at a town meeting held

"The 16th off Novembr 1639"

"Itis ordrd that John Steele shalbe Register or Towne Clarke to Record all [ ] in the Register booke"[12]

The following entry appears in the records of a General Court held April 11, 1640:

"Mr. Steele is returned Recordor for the Towne of Hartford, and hath brought into the Courte 114 coppyes of the severall prcells of land belonging to & conserneing 114 prsons."[13]

These "coppyes" are entered in volume 1 of "Connecticut Colonial Land Records" in the office of the State Secretary. On folio 34 of the volume is this record of John Steele's lands:

"One psell on wch his dwelling howse now standeth wth yards and Gardens therein being conteyneing by Estimation two acres more or les, abutting on the highway leading from the Palasado to the Centinell hill on the west, and the ally leading to the meeting howse on the east and the land belonging to Mr Clem: Chaplain on the North and the land belonging to Mr Sam: Stone & Mr Will Goodwyng on the south./"

Besides this he had one acre in the Little Meadow, three acres and thirty perches, also twenty-one and three-quarter acres and twenty-two perches in the North Meadow, three acres and twenty-four perches on the east side of the Great River, twenty acres in the Old Ox Pasture, eleven acres in the Cow Pasture and five acres in Venturers' field.

This homestead with slight changes in the description is also recorded in the first volume of Hartford Land Records, "Book of Distributions", page 474. On page 82 of this same volume is an entry indicating that in September 1650 it had become the property of "John Taylcoatt" by purchase from John Steele.

About 1640 a settlement was begun at "Vnxus Sepus" or "Tunxis" about nine miles west of Hartford.

In December 1645 the Connecticut General Court fixed the bounds of the plantation and changed its name to Farmington. At the same time

"Mr. Steele is intreated for the prsent to be recorder there, vntill the Towne haue one fitt among thēselues."[14]

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[12] Hartford Town Votes, Conn. Historical Society Collections, vol. 6, pp. 3, 4.

[13] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 48.

[14] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 41, 42, 52, 133, 134.

From the wording of this vote it will be seen that Mr. Steele was not a resident of Farmington in December 1645. Just when he did remove is uncertain, but that he was there in 1652 is shown by the following entry taken from the records of the Farmington church:

"About the 30th day of January, 1652, Nathaniel Kellogg and his wife, John Steele . . . . . was also, joined to the Congregation."[15]

On page 6 of volume 2 of Farmington Land Records we have this entry relating to the property of John Steele:

"Junenary—1655"

"Land in fermingtun in the Jurisdick of Coneckticot belonging to John Steell & to his haiers for euer—

"viz One psell on which his dwelling house Now standeth & is all that New house & siller that he bought & mad with other out houses yeardes & orcherdes thare in being which he bought of John werno^{r} contaiñ by estemā Two acres be it more or les Abutting on the Riuer on the west & on the high way on the East & on Samiwell Steells Land on the South & on Thomas Judds Land on the North—"

He also had "seven score acres" of meadow and swamp called Coxcronk and two acres of woodland "lying before the Towne", etc.

As the records of the town proceedings prior to about 1690 are not extant it is not known whether he was honored by his townsmen with any local office.

It has already been stated that John Steele was one of the persons appointed by the Massachusetts General Court in March 1635-6, to govern, for one year, the settlements on the Connecticut River, and that he was a member of the first Court held at Newtowne, now Hartford, on the 26th of the following month. He was also present at the sessions of the Court held June 7, September 1, October 4, November 1, and December 27, 1636; February 21, 1636-7; March 28 and May 1, 1637.[16]

The term of office of these Commissioners expired in March 1636-7. On the records of the Court of May 1, 1637, the first held after the expiration of the commission, mention is made, for the first time, of a body of men known as Committees.[17]

[15] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 323.

[16] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 2, 3, 5, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,

[17] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 9.

They were known by this appellation until after the adoption of the fundamental orders in January 1638-9. Beginning with the session of April 9, 1640, they were given the title of Deputies.[18]

He was one of the Committee or Deputies at the sessions of March 8, 1637-8; April 5, 1638; April 11 and September 10, 1639; January 16, 1639-'40; April 9 and June 11, 1640; February 8, 1640-41; April 9, September 9, and November 9, 1641; January 5, 1641-2; April 14 and August 26, 1642; March 27, April 13, September 14 and November 10, 1643; February 14, 1643-'44; April —, September 12, November 15 and December 11, 1644; February 5, 1644-'45; April 10, July 9, September 11, October 8 and December 1, 1645; April 9 and October 30, 1646; January 28, 1646-'47; May 20, June 2 and September 9, 1647; February 23 and March 9, 1647-'48; September 14, October 11 and November 8, 1648; January 25 and March 14, 1648-'49; May 17, June 6, September 13, October 10 and December 5, 1649; February 6, 1649-'50; May 16 and 21, June 26, September 12, October 9 and 31, also November 3, 1650; February 5, 1650-'51; May 15, 1651; May 20 and September 9, 1652; February 23 and 24, 1652-'53; April 14, May 18, September 8 and October 21, 1653; May 18, July 11, September 14 and October 3, 1654; March 7, 1654-'55; May 17 and October 4, 1655, though not present at the latter session; May 15 and October 2, 1656; February 26, 1656-7; May 21, August 12 and October 1, 1657; March 11 and 24, 1657-'58, May 20, August 18 and October 7, 1658, and March 9, 1658-'59, a period of twenty-three years in the service of the colony at sixty-six regular and special and also twenty-seven adjourned sessions of the General Assembly.[19]

As a member of the General Court he served on various committees. May 29, 1638, Roger Ludlow, then a resident of Windsor, Connecticut, in a letter written to the Governor and Assistants of Massachusetts, made a statement that at a late meeting of the General Assembly of the river plantations, "John Haines, Esq., Will[m] Pyncheon, Esq., & M[r]. John Steele" were

[18] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 46.

[19] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 13, 17, 27, 34, 41, 46, 50, 58, 64, 67, 69, 70, 71, 73, 82, 84, 93, 96, 99, 103, 111, 114, 116, 117, 124, 128, 130, 132, 133, 138, 145, 146, 149, 155, 157, 159, 160, 166, 167, 169, 174, 178, 185, 188, 195, 199, 201, 204, 207, 208, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 218, 231, 235, 236, 237, 238, 240, 246, 247, 256, 264, 261, 272, 274, 278, 280, 282, 288, 297, 300, 306, 308, 313, 315, 318, 323, 330.

appointed a committee to confer with the authorities of Massachusetts regarding the welfare of the Connecticut towns.[20]

April 11, 1639, the General Assembly "in regard of the state of the present ty[me] and the many occations that ly vppon men", thought best to refer various matters of importance, which had come before that body, viz., the treaty with Uncas and other Indians concerning land titles, correspondence with the settlers of Quinnipiac, otherwise New Haven, and other matters, to a committee consisting of [the] "Governo^{r}, Mr. Deputy, Mr. Willis, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. [ ], Mr. Steele & Mr. Spencer" who "were intreated to attend [the said] services."[21]

From the records of the General Court held June 3, 1644, we learn that

"Mr. Steele, Andrewe Bacon & James Boosy are to order & appoynt some conuenient howse in Hartford, for the comly and sutable meeteing of the Comissioners in September next, wherein they may agitate the affaires of the Combination."[22]

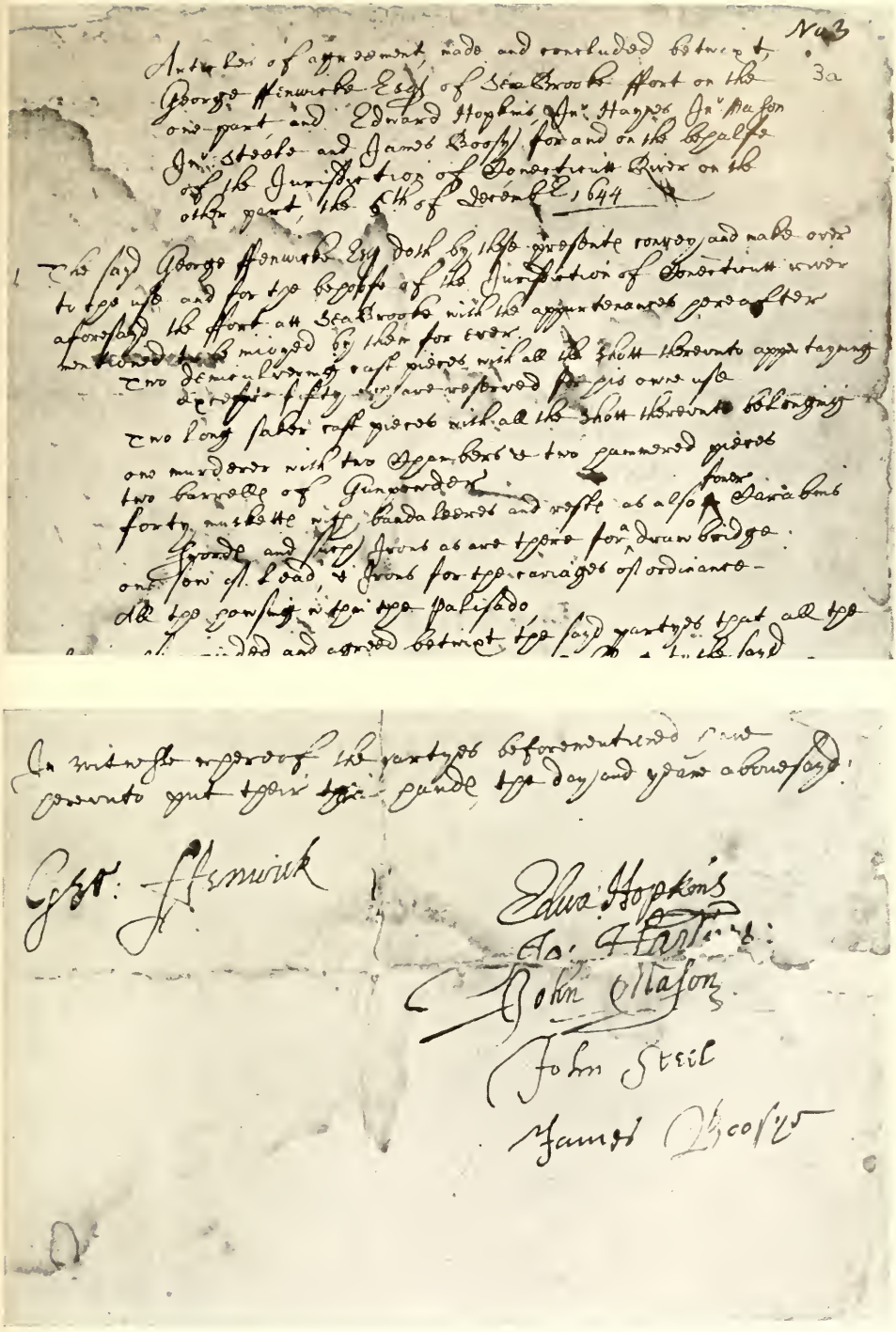
October 25, 1644,

"the Gouernour, Deputy, Capten Mason, Mr. Steele, Mr. Gaylard & James Boosy are desiered to treat wth Mr. Fenwicke concerneing the setling of the Rivers mouth".

In accordance with this vote, Edward Hopkins, John Haynes, John Mason, John Steel and James Boosye, "for and on the behalfe of the Jurisdiction of Conecticutt River", on the 6th of December 1644 signed "Articles of agreement" with George Fenwick whereby the latter conveyed to the Connecticut colony the fort at Saybrook with its equipment and all jurisdiction over the territory included in the Patent of the Earl of Warwick.

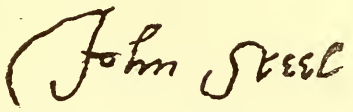
A study of the document shows that in the date thereof the figures 5 and 6 were written one over the other. It is suspected that the document was drawn up with the expectation that it would be signed on the 5th of December, but evidently the business was not concluded until the following day and therefore the date was changed to the 6th.

[20] Mass. Historical Society Collections, fifth series, vol. 1, pp. 260-261.
[21] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 27-28.
[22] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 103, 104-105.



PORTIONS OF THE DEED DATED DECEMBER 6, 1644, FROM GEORGE FENWICK TO THE COLONY OF CONNECTICUT, CONVEYING THE TITLE TO THE FORT AND LANDS AT SAYBROOK.

This interesting paper is preserved in the State Library as document 3 in volume 1 of Towns and Lands. From it we take this signature



Five years later the residents of Saybrook had some grievance about which they petitioned the General Court, and Mr. Steele was appointed one of the committee to attend to the matter.

In February 1650-'51 further action was taken by the General Court regarding the Saybrook Colony, and Mr. Steele was one of the committee placed in charge of the business, and in August 1658 he was appointed with three others "to treat with Capt. Cullick about the purchase of the Riuer".[23]

In March 1647 the General Court took action regarding the purchase of Massacoe and the disposal of the lands among "such inhabitants of Wyndsor as by thē shalbe judged meet to make improuement thereof". The committee were "Mr. Hopkins", "Mr. Webster", "Mr. Steele", "Mr. Talcoate & Mr. Westall".[24]

May 21, 1653, the General Court took action regarding the raising of a body of sixty-five men to be sent with those of the other colonies in an expedition against the Dutch.

"The Courte orders that there shall be a Committee in each Towne in this Jurisdictyon, with whom the Constables of each Towne shall take their advice in the pressing of men for this present expedition. The names of the Committee are as followeth; .....
.....
..... for Farmington, Mr. Steele, Good: Harte".[25]

In October 1654 the officials of the colony were again occupied with the business of raising troops, who were to be sent against the Narragansett Indians, and

"the Comittee chosen by this Courte to press men and necessaryes in each Towne, for this expedityon, in each Towne till it bee ended,"

were for "Farmingtone, Mr. Steele & the Constable".

[23] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 111, 113, 205, 213, 215, 266, 317, 318.
[24] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 161.
[25] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 242, 243.

In the following March action was taken regarding the pay of the soldiers and other expenses of the expedition.

"Mr. Steele & Steph: Harte, for Farmington"

with others were desired

"to receive, allowe & signe to the Treasurer, such bills of debts from ye Country to any perticular person as shall bee brought in to them in theire severall Townes."[26]

"Major Mason, Mr. Stone, Mr. Goodwyn, Mr. Wareham, Mr. Steele & Goodman Stebbing" were, in October 1656, desired by the General Court to collect for placing "vpon recorde to posterity the most memorable passages of Gods p^r^ovidence & settlinge & hitherto continuing his people in this country".[27]

In May 1657 "Mr. Steele & Good: Mygatt" were appointed by the General Court to demand compensation from the Indians at Farmington for damages caused by them in burning buildings in that plantation, and in August 1658 he was again appointed to take action regarding further trouble caused by the Farmington Indians.[28]

It has been shown that JOHN STEELE married prior to his emigration from England, RACHEL TALCOTT of "Brancktree". The following entry appears on page 320 of the second volume of Farmington Land Records:

"Rachell Steell The wife of John Steell Seno^r^ Eanded hur Natterall Lif October the Twenty & fower one Thousand Six hundreth fifty Three"

"Richard Seamer" of Norwalk, Connecticut, made his will July 29, 1655, which was probated October 25 of the same year. By this document he divided his property among his wife Mercy and four sons: Thomas, John, Zachary and Richard.[29]

In the Farmington Land Records, vol. 2, page 331, or reverse end, folio 1, we find that

"John Steell was maryed to mercy Semer Nouem^r^ the Twenty & fiue one thousand Six hundreth fifty & fiue."

On page 18 of the original first volume of Norwalk Land Records is entered, with the date of April 26, 1661:

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[26] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 261, 263, 272, 273.

[27] Ibid., vol. 1, pp, 282, 284.

[28] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 298, 299, 317, 318-319.

[29] Fairfield, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 1, p. 6.

"A true and perfect coppie of the deeide of sale made by mst John steeile of farmington unto mathias Sention Sen of norwake which sayed mstr Steeile was administrator unto the estate of Richd Seamer and married with the sayed Richd Seamers wido ".

On page 10 of the same volume we find:

"The Allottments of Tho Seamer."

"Imprimis one homelott exchanged with the mother of Tho seamer beinge the wife of mstr steeile which said homelott was granted unto Richd Seamer the father of Tho Seamer by the plantation of Norwake"

October 30, 1668, John, Zachary and Richard Seamer acknowledged receipt from "Mr John Steele deceased" the sums due to them "by the last will of or Honored father Richard Semer deceased", and they accordingly released the executors of the will from all further claims.[30]

From the foregoing evidence it will be seen that the second wife of John Steele of Farmington was MERCY, widow of Richard "Semer" or SEYMOUR of Norwalk, Connecticut.

"mr John stell ended his natarull Lif the twenty and seuenth of fabarary won thousan six hundred sixty and foure"[31]

June 15, 1665, the last will and testament of John Steele deceased of Farmington, was presented to the Particular Court,[32] and it is entered in full on page 15 of the reverse end of volume 3 of the Records of said Court as follows:

"January 30. 1663."

"I John Steel of ffarmington being stricken in yeares and weaknes doe see necessary to set our smal occasions in ye world at a stay. I being therfore though weak in body yet of competent ability for this work I humbly comitting my spirit into the hands of god that gaue it and into ye hands of our blessed saviour who euer hath bene a gracias God to me and also doe comit my body to a comly and decent buriall in the comon place of burial at ffarmington appointed for that purpose.

"I giue and bequeath unto my dear and loueing wife mercy Steel The house wherein I now dwell wth the appurtenances belonging to it in al three little closes thervnto belonging also one Barne dureing the time of her natural life esteemed at 4ll 4s p ann:

"I giue and bequeath vnto ye said Mercy a certein parcell of houshold goods that were hirs at ye time when I married to her linnen and wollen brass and pewter and other implements of houshold goods esteemed

[30] Fairfield, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 2, or "1655-75". p. 33.

[31] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 319.

[32] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 3, p. 34.

about nineteen pounds as also a mare colt valued at 2ll. 10s. Also two Cowes and one three yeare old Heifer as also one third part of al ye provision in ye house, which is one third part of what more is in my house wch is for the maintenanc of our familie as one third part of meat one third of our malt one third of butter and cheese one third of flax or yarn woollen or linnen also ten bushels of wheat and six bushels of peas one stock of bees two store swine one third of ye fowles three sheep wth their lambs a pint skellet one woollen one linnen wheel one beer barrell.

"I giue and bequeath vnto my said wife marsy steel one half of all the linnen cloth she hath made since I married to her All wch parcel of goods in the perticulers before mentioned except the house and barne and three Closes I giue and bequeathe vnto my Loueing wife and her heires for euer.

"I giue and bequeath vnto my Loueing wife a parcell of Pasture land inclosed esteemed at three Acres to her for her vse dureing her natural life.

"I giue and bequeath to my Son Samuell Steel my best bed wth ye furniture belonging vnto it wch is a bed wth one Green Rugg one feather boulster two good feather pillowes one suit of green Say Curtaines and Vallons and the girt Bed sted wheron it vsed to lie wth ye Curtaine rode. belonging to it.

"I giue and bequeath to my Son Samuell a Siluer Bowle wch was myne owne Marked wth three siluer stamps and on S. al on the vpper end of ye bowle. Also I giue vnto my son Samuel one half of al my Books also my gold scales and weights belonging to yt. All which ꝑticulers aboue mentioned I giue and bequeath to my Son Samuel and his heires for euer to enioy them imediately after my natural life is ended.

"I giue to my son Samuell a peice of inclosed Pasture land by estimation three Acres abutting on Isaack Moor South and Mathew Woodroof west and Samuel Steel north and comon land East wch said land I giue and bequeath to him and his Heires for euer to enioy it imediately after myne and my wife decease.

"And to avoid the trouble of other conveiances of house and Land to my Son Samuell Steel of what I gaue him at his marriage wth Mary Boosy I here express it that as then I did so here I doe giue and bequeath vnto my Son Samuel Steel a parcel of Land wth a tenement standing on it wch parcel of Land conteines by estimation two Acres abutting on the high way east and Riuer West and William Juds land South and John Steels land North As also a smal parcel of Land on wch his Stilhouse stands conteineing by estimation nine roods more or less abutting on Willm Judds Land south and on ye high way East and on John Steels Land north and West

"One parcell of Land lying in the great meadow conteineing by estimation seauenteen Acres more or less abutteing on John Nortons land South and the riuer west and on John Steels land deceased North and on the highway east

"One parcell lying in the third meadow conteining by estimation three Acres and a half more or less abutting on the Riuer West and on John Steels land deceased South and on the comon land East and Samuell Steels land North

"One parcell of land lying in the Cock crook which is one third part of all that land wch was Cocks crook wch whole parcel of Land was giuen by ffarmington inhabitants to me also by ye Indian wch was ye owner of ye forementioned Land w^ch'^ Indian is now deceased which Indian was called by the name of Cock crook

"W^ch^ parcell of Land giuen to my son Samuell is one third part of this whole parcell both for quallity and quantity, Al wch parcells formentioned (except the three Acres of pasture land not yet to be possessed by him) I doe giue and bequeath, both Land and house forementioned vnto my Son Sam^ll^ Steel and his heires for euer.

"I giue and bequeath vnto my Son in Law Willm: Judd one third part of my Land called Cocks crook

"I giue and bequeath vnto my Son in Law Thomas Judd one third part of my Land at Cockscrook wch three parcels of land is all that was mine in Cockscrook granted by farmington Inhabitants to me in that place. That whole parcel of land shalbe devided equally both for quantity and quallty amongst my three Sons Samuel Steel, William Judd and Thomas Judd. for them and their heires for euer

"I giue vnto my Son in Law Thomas Judd one p̄cell of Land lying in ye neck of Land in Hartford being by Estimation Twenty Acres more or lesse abutting on Willm Wadsworth Land north and on Windsor high way on ye West on ye dead swamp East, wch said Land I giue vnto Thomas Judd and his heires for euer.

"I giue and bequeath vnto my too Sons in Law Willm and Thomas Judd my now dwelling house and barn house Lott yards Garden orchyard therto belonginge to be equally devided betwixt the foresaid William and Thomas to them and their heires for euer to enter possssion imediately after myne and my wiues departure out of this natural life.

"ffurther my Wil is that a few things should be disposed to my Loving wife and Children and Grandchild^r^

"To my wife two smal siluer spoones and some small matter of linnen And to Mary Judd one peice of Gold and to Sarah Judd on peice of Gold to John Steel son of John Steel deceased one siluer spoon And to Samuell son of ye said John deceased one siluer spoon and to Benony Steel one siluer spoon And to Rachel Daughter of Samuel Steel one siluer spoon to be delivered to them at their marriadge by my Son Samuell Steel, But my wife and two Daughters shal haue theirs imediately after the departure of my naturall life.

"further it is my wil that if any of these three John Steel Samuell or Benony die before marriage then ye fore mentioned spoones to be devided betwixt the Surviuors And if al three die then the spoones to returne to my Son Samuel and his Heires for euer And it is my Wil that for the remainder of my siluer spoones broken or whole as also a smal gold ring I giue and bequeath to my Son Samuell Steel

"And for the rest of my Estate Cattle or horses sheep ec within doores or w^thout vndisposed all iust debts being first paid I giue and bequeath to my two Sons in Law William and Thomas Judd And doe make them my Sole Executors and doe desire and make choice of my Son Samuel Steel and James Steel to be the ouer seers of this my Will and Testament.

John
Steel"

"Testes vpon Oath in Court June 16.65
James Steel
Samuel Steel."

An inventory of the estate was taken in June 1665 which showed the entire property to be worth £184–03–08.

Some of the items were:

"house barne Lott & Orchyard - - - - - - -65— 0—0"
"on peice of pastur land - - - - - - - 12— 0—0"
"peuter & too siluer spoones - - - - - - 2— 0—0"
"foureteene books - - - - - - - - - - - 3— 0—0"
"siluer Plate - - - - - - - - - - 3— 0—0"
"in gold to tenn shilling peices on gold ring - 1— 5—0"
"on matchlocke Muskett on holberd - - - - - - - - - 0—16—0"
"wampom & honey - - - - - - - - - - - 0— 6—0"
"three quir of papper - - - - - - - - - 0— 2—0"[33]

An examination of the Farmington Records fails to disclose the date of death of John Steele's second wife, Mercy, and nothing is known about her after the date of his will.

CHILDREN OF JOHN AND RACHEL (TALCOTT) STEELE

JOHN[34]	b.		mar. Jan. 22, 1645, Mary Warner[39] and lived in Farmington, Conn.
SAMUEL[34]	" about 1626;[35]		" before Dec. 1652, Mary Boosey.[40]
DANIEL[34]	"	bap.	living Jan. 1636-7.[34] Nothing further known about him.
RACHEL[34]	"	" June 29, 1632;[38]	" Jan. 1636-7.[34] Nothing further known about her.

[33] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, John Steele estate.

[34] Named in the will of their grandmother, Ann (Skinner) Talcott Wall, as living January 1636-7, when the will was made.

LYDIA	b.	mar. Mar. 31, 1657, James Bird[41] of Farmington, Conn.
MARY	"	" Mar. 31, 1657, William Judd[41] of Farmington, Conn.
SARAH	" about 1638;[36]	" between Aug. 12, 1659, and Jan. 30, 1663, Thomas Judd[42] of Farmington, Conn.
HANNAH	"	died July 17, 1655.[43]
DANIEL	" April 29, 1645;[37]	" 1646.[37]

SAMUEL STEELE, son of John and Rachel (Talcott) Steele, was born in England about 1626.

June 6, 1685, he testified regarding land conveyed by his father and in the document his age is given as "fifty nighne years or there abouts"[44]

He emigrated with his parents to America as early as 1632 and lived in Cambridge, Massachusetts, removing about 1635 to Hartford, Connecticut.

He married MARY, daughter of James and Alice ( ) BOOSEY of Wethersfield, Connecticut.

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[35] June 6, 1685, he made an affidavit in which he gave his age as 59 years or thereabouts. Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 43.

[36] An entry on page 67 of the original first volume of Land Records of the town of Waterbury reads thus: "Left thomas iudds Wife dyed in may: 22d: 1695 in ye 57 yeir of hur age." If Thomas Judd was not married more than once this refers to Sarah (Steele) Judd, and approximates the year of her birth as 1638.

[37] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 1.

[38] Register of St. Mary's Church, Fairstead, Essex County, England.

[39] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 22.

[40] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 3, reverse end, p. 15, will of John Steele, and Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 330, or reverse end, folio 2.

[41] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 331, or reverse end, folio 1.

[42] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 137, will of John Talcott, and vol. 3, reverse end, p. 15, will of John Steele.

[43] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 320.

[44] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 43.

There is no record of this marriage, but their oldest known child Mary was born December 5, 1652.[45]

Whether Samuel Steele removed to Farmington prior to the birth of his daughter Mary is unknown, but he is believed to have been there before January 1653-4, when John North is recorded as having bought of Samuel Steele a dwelling house and three-quarters of an acre of land situated on the east side of the Town highway.[46]

April 2, 1654, he was admitted to membership in the Farmington church, and June 1 of that year the Particular Court confirmed his election as Ensign of the train-band of that place.[47]

The loss of the earliest Town Records makes it impossible to learn what, if any, public offices he held for nearly twenty years after his appearance in Farmington.

About 1657 John Stanley and John Andrews, two adventurous spirits of Farmington, had brought to the town specimens of black lead found in a remote region within the bounds of ancient Waterbury, then known as Mattatuck.

February 8, 1657-8, William Lewis and Samuel Steele obtained from the Indians a deed conveying the right

"to dig: and carry away what they will and To build on y^{t} for ye vse of them that Labor there: and not otherwise To improve: ye Land"[48]

The inhabitants of Farmington were evidently dissatisfied with this transaction, for at a meeting held January 29, 1665, a committee was appointed to "Demand" from Lieutenant Lewis and Ensign Steele the

"Deed of Sale of Mattatuk Land, and haue it assigned to them In ye behalfe of ye Company and haue it Recorded"[49]

April 13, 1670, the town appointed a committee to take action toward establishing the boundary line between Farmington and Wethersfield, and two weeks later "Ensign Sam^{ll} Steele" was added to the committee.[50]

[45] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, reverse end, folio 2; "Private Controversies", vol. 1, document 62, vol. 2, document 172, Conn. State Library, and Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 85.

[46] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 12.

[47] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 323, and Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 52.

[48] Bronson's History of Waterbury, Conn., 1858, p. 2.

[49] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, p. 139.

[50] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 156.

In the following January he was appointed with three others to defend the town in suits about the boundary line, as

"allso to prepare ye Land formerly Giuen. In ye Great Swamp. on Mattabesit Riuer. for A diuision. as allso to Lay it out"[51]

In November 1671 and May 1673 he was on committees to defend the town in suits brought against it by Samuel Stone and Thomas Bell.[52]

May 22, 1673, the town of Farmington obtained from the Indians a deed of the lands of that town, confirmatory of a grant made April 9, 1650, and in this transaction Samuel Steele was one of the four persons who acted as agents for the town.[53]

He was a Deputy from Farmington to the General Court at the May and October sessions of 1669, '70, '71, '72, May and August 1673, October 1674, May, July and October 1675, May 1676 and May 1677. He also served as a Deputy from Wethersfield in October 1681.[54]

By appointment of the General Court he served on various committees.

In October 1670 "Ens: Steele" and seven other men from different parts of the colony were

"desired to take into their consideration the land belonging to the seuerall plantations, and consider and set such an apprizement upon the land as may as near as may be just and equal, and present it to the Court."[55]

May 14, 1673, "Ensigne Sam^ll^ Steele and Sarg^t^ Hugh Wells" were appointed to locate and mark the boundary line between the towns of Hartford and Windsor on the east side of the "great Riuer".[56]

It has been stated that William Lewis and Samuel Steele, in February 1657-8, purchased from the Indians the right to mine lands at "Mattatuck".

In 1673 steps were being taken by Farmington people to locate there.

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[51] Farmington, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, p. 157.

[52] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 131.

[53] "Indians", vol. 1, document 28, Conn. State Library.

[54] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 105, 116, 127, 136, 147, 159, 169, 184, 192, 204, 235, 249, 260, 265, 274, 300 and vol. 3, p. 85.

[55] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 137.

[56] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 197.

Among the records of

"A Court of Election held at Hartford, May 14th, 1674",

appears the following entry:

"This Court nominate and appoynt Major John Tallcott, L^nt^ Robt Webster, L^nt^ Nicho: Olmstead, Ens: Sam^ll^ Steele and Ens: John Wadsworth, to be a committee to regulate and order the setleing of a plantation at Mattatock in the most suitable way that may be."[57]

The King Philip War spread terror through the plantations and the colonial authorities were frequently called upon to act with reference thereto.

A meeting of the Council was held on the 25th of November, 1675, when one hundred and ten men were ordered raised in Hartford County, for the protection of the colony, and their wages fixed; two men from each town were authorized to pass upon and certify to the Colonial Treasurer the expenses their respective towns incurred in the war.

"Mr. Wadsworth, L^nt^ Steele" were to certify for Farmington.[58]

In the foregoing entry of May 1674 Steele is called "Ensign", but in the record of November 1675 he is termed "Lieutenant", as the General Court in October 1674 had confirmed his promotion to that office.[59]

In regard to his real estate the following record of his homestead was made in January 1655:

"One p̄sell on which his dwelling house Now Standeth. which is all that olld house y^t^ was John wernors, with other out howses yeardes & orcherdes theare in being Contaiñ by Estemā Two acres be it more or Les Abutting on the Riuer on the west & on the high way on the East & on Samwell Lomes his Land on the South & on John Steells Land on the North"[60]

He also owned at that time eighteen acres in the Great Meadow and three acres, one rood and thirteen perches in the Third Meadow.

There were recorded to him in 1657, as having been bought of Thomas Judd, two acres with the dwelling house thereon,

[57] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, pp. 220, 225.

[58] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 385, 386.

[59] Ibid., vol. 2, pp. 235, 238.

[60] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 74, and folio 6 of Farmington Lands, in vol. 2 of Connecticut Colonial Land Records.

bounded north on land of John North, east on Steele's own land, south on land of Thomas Judd, Junior, and west on the Town Highway.

This piece was reëntered on the records in August 1681, and was probably his last place of residence in that town.[61]

The records also show that he had lands among the Pines, at Dirty Hole, Coxcrank, East Division, Indian Neck and elsewhere.[62]

Perhaps in answer to a petition made in March 1661-2 the General Court in May 1672 granted

"to Ens: Samuel Steele and Sarg[t] John Wadsworth, two hundred acres of land apeice, prouided they take it up where it may not prejudice any former grant to any plantation or perticuler person".[63]

Later they purchased the Indian title to a tract of land one and one-quarter miles square on the east side of the Connecticut River.

In May 1687, in response to a request of Mr. Wadsworth, the General Court confirmed his title to four hundred acres and the title of Samuel Steele then deceased to three hundred acres, and a committee was appointed to lay out the grant.[64]

This committee did not act and a new committee was appointed in May 1712.[65]

The survey and lay out of May 26, 1712, to the heirs of John Wadsworth of Farmington and the heirs of Lieutenant Samuel Steele of Wethersfield, shows that the property lay east of the then easterly bounds of Middletown.[66]

James Boosey, the father-in-law of Samuel Steele, made his will in June 1649, in which he gave his two sons, Joseph and James, all his real estate after the death of his wife, and made other provision for his daughters.

The will stated that if any of the children should die before the legacies came due, their portion or portions were to go to the surviving children.[67]

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[61] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, pp. 75, 88.
[62] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 74, 75.
[63] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 376, and vol. 2, p. 174.
[64] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 231.
[65] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 331.
[66] Conn. Colony Record of Deeds, no. 3, p. 516.
[67] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, James Boosey estate.

Joseph Boosey, the eldest son, died in July 1655, leaving a widow, Esther, who later became the wife of Jehu Burr of Fairfield. As Joseph Boosey's widow she claimed title to all the property he left, including the real estate devised to him by his father.

In 1661 Jehu Burr and his wife Esther, who had been the widow of Joseph Boosey, sold some of the Boosey lands in Wethersfield.[68]

As James Boosey's widow, the mother of Joseph Boosey, was still living, the husbands of the daughters claimed that Joseph, having died before his mother, had no title to the property, and therefore his widow could not alienate it.[69]

In 1668 the husbands of the daughters began proceedings to protect their interests and were involved in litigation over the matter for many years.[70]

By 1678 Samuel Steele had removed to Wethersfield where he evidently settled on the James Boosey homestead, as there is no record of his having bought any land in that town.

February 19, 1678-9, he was elected one of the Townsmen of Wethersfield and reëlected January 13 following.[71]

In October 1679 the town of Wethersfield voted to buy a bell for public use and "Mr Sam^{ll} Steel" was one of the committee appointed to procure it.

At the same meeting it was decided to store the town's supply of powder, lead and bullets at certain houses, and Samuel Steele's house was one of the three so designated.[72]

In December 1681 he was named first on a committee of three appointed by the town "to treat wth m^{r} Russell of Hadlai" respecting a claim the latter made against the town for the occupancy of his house by Reverend John Cotton, and at the same meeting Steele was chosen on a committee to enlarge the burying place.[73]

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[68] "Private Controversies", vol. 2, document 179, Conn. State Library, and Wethersfield, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, folios 93-95.

[69] "Private Controversies", vol. 2, document 184, Conn. State Library.

[70] Ibid., vol. 1, document 62, vol. 2, documents 172-189, Conn. State Library; Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 85; Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 83, and Colonial Records, New England, 1619-1701, reverse end, pp. 30, 51.

[71] Wethersfield, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, folios 77, 81.

[72] Ibid., vol. 1, folio 80, or p. 161.

[73] Ibid., vol. 1, folio 88, or p. 177.

In December 1683 and March 1683-4 he was named on the committees to determine and mark the bounds of the burying ground and, if necessary, to purchase additional land therefor.[74]

The Wethersfield Town Votes show that he also served on other important committees.

There is no known entry on any Town Records of the death of Samuel Steele, but the inventory of his estate has this heading:

"An Inventory of the estate of Lieut. Sam[ll] Steel
Deceased Aug. 14th: 1685:"[75]

June 10, 1685, he made his will, which begins thus:

"I Samuel Steele, Sometime inhabitant of ffarmington, now of y[e] towne of wethersfield, upon Connecticot in New England, beinge (through the mercy of god) wel composed in minde, but weake in body".

To his wife he gave £80 absolutely, one-half in household goods and one-half in live stock, also firewood cut ready for use to the amount of £12 annually, with the occupancy of "one fireroome wth the chamber over It," and a right to the cellar. She was given the liberty to reside in Wethersfield or Farmington as she might prefer and the house was to be kept in repair at the expense of his estate.

If she should need additional support, the overseers were authorized to furnish it.

In case she should marry again, she was to have the £80 absolutely, and firewood for four years; after that time her rights in the house were to terminate and her supply of firewood cease.

The two sons, James and Ebenezer, were given the real estate in Wethersfield and Farmington subject to their mother's rights therein; that in Wethersfield to go to one son and that in Farmington to the other, James having his first choice.

The testator's right in the saw mill was given to the two sons equally.

To Hannah, who was at that date his only unmarried daughter, he gave £40 at 18 years of age or day of marriage, and to all four daughters £20 each, payable within four years after the decease of himself and wife.

[74] Wethersfield, Conn., Town Votes, vol. 1, folios 91, 93, or pp. 181, 185.

[75] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Samuel Steele estate.

The balance of the estate was given equally to his sons James and Ebenezer, they paying all the debts. If either son should die before reaching the age of twenty-one, his share was to be divided, one-half to the surviving brother, and the other half among his sisters equally.

"The execution of this my will I leave to my wife wth my Two sons James and Ebenezer, Requesting my much esteemed kinsmen m^{r} John Wadsworth of ffarmington and Captaine Samuel Talcot of Wethersfield to favour wth oversight:"

The will was witnessed by John Wadsworth, Senior, and Samuel Hooker, Senior, and is evidently in the handwriting of the latter, and presumably signed in Farmington.

Three and a half weeks later, or July 5, 1685, a short codicil was drawn up for him by Eleazar Kimberly of Wethersfield and witnessed by the latter and John Welles.

It confirmed the will and gave instructions for replacing the two barns in Farmington destroyed by a storm since the execution of his will, with another of certain dimensions.[76]

An inventory of his property in Farmington was taken September 2, 1685, the real estate being valued at £431–00–00
and the personal property consisting of grain,
farming tools, etc., at 26–05–00
making a total of £457–05–00

The inventory of his Wethersfield property bears no date except that of his death before quoted.

The real estate was appraised at 428–00–00
The personal property consisting of
household goods, cattle, etc., was worth 297–07–10
making a total of 725–07–10
and giving a grand total of £1182–12–10,[76]

which reveals an unusually large estate for those days.

The widow made oath to the inventory on the 5th of September, before Samuel Talcott of Wethersfield, one of the Assistants.[77]

The Court Records do not clearly indicate the exact date when the will and inventory were presented to the County Court, but

[76] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Samuel Steele estate.
[77] Ibid., Samuel Steele estate.

presumably on the same day as that on which the widow made oath to the inventory.[78]

On page 26 of volume 1 of Births, Marriages and Deaths of the town of Wethersfield, are entered the marriage of James Steele, son of Lieutenant Samuel, and the births of his children. Following these births is a record of the death, on March 16, 1703-4, of Mrs. Mary Steele.

It is believed that this entry refers to Mrs. Mary (Boosey) Steele, mother of James and widow of Lieutenant Samuel Steele.

If so, she was in her 69th year, as she was born September 10, 1635.[79]

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL AND MARY (BOOSEY) STEELE

MARY	b. Dec. 5, 1652,[80]	bap. Apr. 2, 1654;[82]	mar. Oct. 24, 1670, John Thomson[85] of Farmington, Conn.
RACHEL	" Oct. 30, 1654;[81]	"	" Jonathan Smith[86] of Farmington, Conn.
SARAH	"	" Dec. 29, 1656;[81]	" Feb. 8, 1682, Samuel Boardman[87] of Wethersfield, Conn.
SAMUEL	"	" Mar. 20, 1658;[83]	nothing further known; probably died young.
JOHN	"	" Dec. 10, 1661;[84]	nothing further known; probably died young.

[78] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 112.

[79] Wethersfield, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 22.

[80] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, reverse end, folio 2.

[81] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 324.

[82] Ibid., vol. 11, p. 323.

[83] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, reverse end, folio 3.

[84] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 11, p. 327.

[85] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. J.

[86] Document 276, in vol. 4, of "Private Controversies" in the Conn. State Library, is an affidavit of Jonathan Smith, dated May 11, 1696, in which he speaks of "my honerd father in Law Samuell Steel". As it is known whom the other daughters of Samuel Steele married, Jonathan Smith must have married Rachel Steele.

[87] Wethersfield, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 53.

JAMES	b. "ye Last of agust", 1662,[88]	bap. Aug. 27, 1664;[83]	mar.	July 19, 1687, Ann Welles[89] and lived in Wethersfield, Conn.
HANNAH	" Aug. 1668;[88]	"	"	1, Treat.[90] 2, Apr. 12, 1694, John Hart[90] of Farmington, Conn.
EBENEZER	" "ye Last of aprill", 1671,[88]	"	"	Feb. 15, 1704-5, Sarah Hart[91] and lived in Farmington, Conn.

[88] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, reverse end, p. C.

[89] Wethersfield, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 26.

[90] Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 9, reverse end, p. 126, will of Ebenezer Steele, and Wethersfield, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 2, p. 123.

[91] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 145.

THE FAMILY OF

JAMES BOOSEY

In the correspondence of John Winthrop, Governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, as printed in the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, is a letter from "Samwell Borrowes", dated "Colchestere, this 6 of Junarie, 1629[-30].", in which he wrote:

"Maye yet plese you to vnderstand the case of my righting to youere worship at this time, is that thare is a frend of mine wiche is willinge to go this voyadge for Newe Ingland. He hathe beine inclind to that voyadg a gret wile, but he cam not to me withe a reselushon for to go tele this morninge, aftere my fatheres letere was ritt, and he desired me to right to you for to entere his name and his wifes, ...

.....

"His name is James Boosye, and alleso[1] his wife."

In another letter dated "Colchest[r], this 20 of Janvary, 1629 [-30]", he wrote:

"In my former letere that I sente to you, I moshened to you Jhemes Boseye and his wife, wich I am fere soreye that I ded medell in the besenes about sendinge to youer worshep for them. Had I thot that he wod a proued so on constante, he shod a rit himselfe; he telese me the resen he cannot go this viadeg, is that he had sold his comodties, and the partey teles him sence that he will not haue them, except he will staye for his moneye tell after Mikellmose, so he desired me to right to you to haue him excuesd for this foyadge."[2]

It is significant that the names of this couple are the same as those of the persons later living in Wethersfield, Connecticut, of whom this sketch treats, and it is strongly suspected that a careful examination of English records would prove them to be the same.

[1] An examination of the original letter shows that this word should have been printed *allese,* a quaint spelling of Alice.

[2] Mass. Historical Society Collections, fifth series, vol. 1, pp. 192, 193-194.

On page 22 of the first volume of the Land Records of Wethersfield, Connecticut, are entered the births of four children of JAMES and ALICE BOOSEY, the first of whom, Mary, is recorded as having been born September 10, 1635.

As will be brought out later in this sketch, James Boosey had a son Joseph older than the daughter Mary. As Mary is the first of his children whose birth is entered on the Wethersfield Records, it is inferred that she was the first of the family born in that town and that Boosey was living there in September 1635.

April 11, 1639, at the first meeting of the General Court held after the adoption of the fundamental orders, James Boosey was one of the Committees later known as Deputies, and also served in the sessions of August 8 and September 10, 1639, January 16, 1639-'40, April 9 and June 11, 1640, February 8, 1640-'41, April 9, 1641, April, 2d Thursday, 1642, November 10, 1643, February 14, 1643-4, April —, September 12, November 15 and December 11, 1644, February 5 and March 5, 1644-5, April 10, July 9, September 11, October 8 and December 1, 1645, April 9 and October 30, 1646, January 28, 1646-7, May 20, June 2 and September 9, 1647, February 23 and March 9, 1647-8, May 18, September 14 and December 6, 1648, January 25, March 14, 1648-9, May 17 and June 6, 1649.[3]

He was on the jury of the Particular Court at the sessions of December 1641, June, October and December 1645, and May and December 1647.[4]

He also served on important committees by appointment of the General Court.

August 8, 1639, action was taken

"for surveying the armor and other military provitions in each Towne once a quarter",

and "this great trust" was

"comitted to James Boosy for Wethersfeeld"[5]

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[3] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 27, 29, 34, 41, 46, 50, 58, 64, 71, 96, 99, 103, 111, 114, 116, 117, 122, 124, 128, 130, 132, 133, 138, 145, 146, 149, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 166, 170, 174, 178, 185, 188.

[4] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 70, 126, 133, 135, 147, 159.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 29, 30.

At this date Wethersfield, Hartford and Windsor were the only towns in the Connecticut Colony.

The residents of these towns had contemplated making a settlement at "Vnxus Sepus" (Farmington), and January 16, 1639-'40, James Boosey was the junior member of a committee appointed to view the lands there for that purpose and make a report to the Court.[6]

A "house of Correction", "24 foote long & 16 or 18 foote broad wth a Celler, ether of wood or stonne" was ordered built in April 1640, "to be done by the next Courte, in September" and James Boosey was one of four persons appointed to have charge of the work.[7]

In April 1640 and November 1643 he was on a committee to proportion among the three towns the rate or tax ordered to be raised for defraying the colony debts.[8]

At "A Generall Court held the IXth of Nouēber, 1641"

. . . . . .

"It is Ordered that Mr. Welles, Mr. Steele, Mr. Plum and James Boosey shall runne the lyne west into the Country betwixt Hartford and Wethersfield"[9]

October 12, 1643, he was appointed to

"take a record of the debts of the Country oweing in . . . . . Wethersfield",

and September 11, 1645

"Mr. Webster is desiered to cause the Constables of Hartford to bring in a iust accoumpte of all the p^{r}ticuler and seu^{r}all chardges of the late warrs, and for the support of Vncus."

. . . . . .

"Ja: Boosy" was "to doe the like" for Wethersfield.[10]

The Commissioners of the United Colonies were to sit at Hartford in September 1644.

June 3 of that year, "Mr. Steele, Andrewe Bacon & James Boosy" were authorized

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[6] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 41, 42.
[7] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 47.
[8] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 48, 98.
[9] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 69.
[10] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 93, 94, 130, 131.

"to order & appoynt some conuenient howse in Hartford, for the comly and sutable meeteing of the Comissioners ..... wherein they may agitate the affaires of the Combination."[11]

Among the records of a session of the General Court, begun the 25th of October 1644 is this entry:

"The Gouernour, Deputy, Capten Mason, Mr. Steele, Mr. Gaylard & James Boosy are desiered to treat wth Mr. Fenwicke concerneing the setling of the Rivers mouth, to know vppon what terms we stand wth him in that respecte"[12]

This committee made an agreement with "George ffenwicke Esqr of Sea Brooke ffort" on the 6th of the following December and the document is entered in full on the Colonial Records.

Under its terms Fenwick transferred to the Colony the title to "all the Land vppon the River of Conecticutt", with the fort at Saybrook and

"Two demiculvering cast pieces with all the shott therevnto appertayning except fifty wch are reserved for his own use

"Two long saker cast pieces with all the shott therevnto belonging one murderer with two Chambers & two hammered pieces two barrells of Gunpowder

"forty musketts with bandaleeres and rests as also fowre Carabens swords and such Irons as are there for a draw bridge

"one sow of Lead and Irons for the carriages of ordinance

"All the howsinge within the Palisado"

.....

.....

"The sayd George ffenwicke doth also promise that all the Lands from Narragansett River to the ffort of Sea Brooke mentioned in a Pattent graunted by the Earle of Warwicke to Certaine Nobles and gentlemen shall fall in vnder the Jurisdiction of Conecticutt yf it come into his power/."

Fenwick reserved for himself a house with one acre of land near the wharf and certain other lands, and was to receive in return for ten years from the first of the following March the duties on corn, biscuit and beaver exported by water past the fort, and the taxes on cattle, horses and swine raised in the aforesaid jurisdiction, and beaver traded therein.[13]

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[11] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 103, 104, 105.

[12] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 113.

[13] Towns and Lands, vol. 1, doc. 3a, Conn. State Library.

From this important document we take this autograph

Prior to October 1646 steps had been taken with reference to making a settlement at Mattabeseck, now Middletown, and on the 30th of that month an addition was made to the committee appointed for that purpose.[14]

It is unfortunate that the record concerning this matter is so imperfect, for the entry of October 30, 1646, is the only record on the subject up to that date and reveals the name of but one member of the committee though James Boosey was evidently on it, for the General Court, March 20, 1649-'50, added

"Sammuell Smith senior, of Wethersfeild, to the Comittee about the lands at Mattabeseck, in the roome of Jeames Boosy."[15]

Mention has been made of the appointmnet in August 1639 of James Boosey to inspect the military equipments at Wethersfield.

The record of a Court of Election held April 10, 1645, shows that he was

"chosen Clarke of the band for Wethersfield."[16]

There is no record of his promotion to higher positions in the company, but the entry showing him to have been a Deputy to the General Court of September 9, 1647, describes him as Lieutenant Boosey.[17]

The Connecticut Colonial and Wethersfield Town Records indicate that he was an extensive land owner.

Document 174 in volume 2 of "Private Controversies" in the Connecticut State Library is a copy of the record of his lands as entered on folio 142 of volume 1 of Wethersfield Land Records.

This record was made March 10, 1641-2, and shows that his homestead consisted of three and a quarter acres, more or less, with a dwelling house and barn thereon, bounded southeast on

[14] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 145, 146.
[15] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 205, 206.
[16] Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 124, 125.
[17] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 157.

Broad street, southwest on land formerly of John Strickland and later of George Wyllys, northwest by Rose Lane (now Main street) and northeast by the house-lot formerly Samuel Hubbard's.

The records show that he bought and sold other homesteads, but it is believed that he did not reside on them.

In August 1685 a division of his real estate was made between Lieutenant Samuel Steele and Ensign Nathaniel Stanley, the husbands of his daughters Mary and Sarah.

The homestead was set to Samuel Steele and at that time was bounded, southeast on Broad street, northwest on Rose Lane, southeast(west?) on land of Richard Treat and northeast on lands of Mr. Fitch and Mr. Kimberly.

There is no entry on the Wethersfield Records giving the death of James Boosey, but we learn from his unsigned will that he died June 22, 1649. This document preserved among the files of the Hartford Probate Court reads as follows:

"This 21th of June 1649"

"The Last will & Testement of James Boosey Late of Wethersfeild vpon the Riuer on Conecticoat who Died the 22th of this Instant month

"In primus I giue To my Eldest sonne Joseph Boosey tow hunderd pounds to be paid him when he shall Com to the Age of one and Twenty years. in maner as folioweth

"I giue Him my hom lot wth a barne standing vpon it wch I bought of Mr Olcot wch was Thomus Sherwoods the yonger con six acr more or Lesse wch I price at fifty pounds 17 acr: of my plain that is to say the litle plaine Runing to the great plain of A true square making vp this 17 ac: price at fifty on pounds and seauen acrs in the great mea: wchI bought of Robt Coe price thirty fiue pounds and fiue acr in beauer mea: at fifteen pounds and all my Vpland wch I bought of Robt Coe price 20 pounds and twenty nine pounds in such pay as his mother can Conveniantly pay him in: when my sonne Joseph Coms to the Inioyment of this land acording to this my will he shall Repay backe againe the hunderd pounds vnlesse he take this hunderd pound in land:

"Item I giue to my Daughter mary fifty pounds at the age of on and Twenty years or at the Day of her maridge

"Ite I giue to my Daughter Hanah Boosey fifty pounds to be paid her at the age of one and twenty years or at the Day of her maridge

"Ite I giue to my Daughter Sarah Boosey fifty pounds to be paid her at the age of One and Twenty Years or at the Day of her maridge further it is my will that my tow sonns Joseph & James shall haue

all my Lands after the Death of their mother Joseph shall haue all my purchased land Except foure acr in beauer mea: wch is twenty acrs on the great plain and foure acrs in the great mea: wch was John Simonsis & Jarimiah Jagers this wth that before mentioned is the whole purchased Land Exsept the four acr in beauer mea: before Exsepted: my sonne James shall haue my now Dwelling house & house lot and barnes & houses standing theron wth all the lands wch was giuen me by the Towne that is now in my possesion: wch is twelue ac in the great mea: 56 ac of vpland & swamp wth four acr in beauer mea: wch was named before:

"It is also my will what this land shall Amount to Aboue these tow legisies of thre hunderd pounds the vallew of it shalbe Devided Amongst my fiue Children ꝑportioable acording to their portions: we who is the prisers find his land to be worth foure hunderd pounds wch we Conceiue this hunderd pound wch sermounts: to be Deuided thuse: to Joseph Deuision coms to 44li 8s 10d Jameses 22li 4 5 to mary 11li 2s 2d 06 to Hanah 11li 2s 2d 06 to Sarah 11li 2s 2d 06 and so ther Remains the half penis vndevided

"And If any of these my Children shall die before they be at age or their portions shalbe Due to them the portion or portions shalbe Devided Among the serviuing Children Acording to the Devision ꝑportionable to their portions as the hunderd pounds is to be Devided that was formerly mentiond.

"It is my will that if any of these my Children shall proue vndutifull or stuborne and will not be Ruled by their mother it shalbe in the power of their mother to take from those wch are vndutifull and to giue the Devidable portions to those wch is the Dutifullest as she shall se cause and as they shal behaue them selues towards her

"And for the Rest of my goods I do bequeath to my wife as my whole and sole Exsecatrix And do Intreat Mister Wells Brother Smith Senior & Brother Dickinson to be the suprevisors of this my will & Testement."

"Wittneses to this will & Testement is
Sam: Smith Senior
Nath: Dickinson"

An inventory of the estate was taken August 4, 1649, by Samuel Smith, Senior, and Nathaniel Dickinson.

The grand total was	£983–08–00,
of which the real estate was appraised at	400–00–00
"his Joiners & wheelwrights tooles	010:00:00"
"the Debts wch is owing him and the pay wch hee hath allready paid to ye shipp	130:00:00"[18]

[18] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, reverse end, p. 19, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, James Boosey estate.

There is no entry on the records to show when the will and inventory were presented to the Particular Court, but presumably soon after the inventory of the estate was made.

The widow Alice Boosey married for her second husband James Wakely of Hartford, October 5, 1652.[19]

The records of the Particular Court show that this marriage was satisfactory neither to the Boosey children nor to the parties themselves.

Ten years later Wakely fled to Rhode Island leaving his wife in Wethersfield, and their family matters occupied the attention of the court for some years.[20]

In October 1680 both parties filed petitions for divorce, which the court declined to grant.[21]

Mrs. Alice Boosey Wakely died August 30, 1683,[22] and on the 6th of September administration on her estate was granted to the sons-in-law, Samuel Steele and Nathaniel Stanley, and an inventory, evidently taken the same day, was presented to the Court.

The property consisted of

Real estate valued at	£238–00–00
Cash	12–18–04
Household furniture, clothing, etc., making a total of	£348–18–04[23]

Wakely continued to reside in Rhode Island and engaged in litigation against his wife's estate up to the time of his death, which, according to the records, occurred between October 1690 and May 1691.[24]

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[19] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 24, and Connecticut Colonial Land Records, vol. 2, folio 121.

[20] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, pp. 12, 13, 15, 16, 40, 185, 191; vol. 3, pp. 5, 41, 163; Colonial Records, New England, 1659-1701, reverse end, p. 22; Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 401; vol. 2, pp. 34, 59, and vol. 3, p. 87.

[21] Colonial Records, New England, 1659-1701, reverse end, p. 30.

[22] Wethersfield, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 58.

[23] Hartford, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 4, p. 73, reverse end, p. 131, and Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, Alice Wakely estate.

[24] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 4, pp. 35, 44.

CHILDREN OF JAMES AND ALICE ( ) BOOSEY

JOSEPH[25]	b.	mar.	Esther ; evidently a resident of Wethersfield, Conn., in March 1654-5, died in Westchester, N. Y., July 24, 1655. His widow married Jehu Burr of Fairfield, Conn.[27]
MARY	" Sept. 10, 1635;[26]	"	before Dec. 5, 1652, Samuel Steele of Farmington and Wethersfield, Conn.[28]
HANNAH	" Feb. 10, 1641;[26]	"	before Nov. 25, 1658, John Pratt of Hartford, Conn.[29]
SARAH	" Nov. 12, 1643;[26]	"	June 2, 1659, Nathaniel Stanley of Farmington, Conn.[30]
JAMES	" Feb. 1, 1645;[26]	living	June 21, 1649;[31] no further trace of him.

[25] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, will of James Boosey.

[26] Wethersfield, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 22.

[27] Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 64; "Private Controversies", vol. 2, document 179, Conn. State Library, and Wethersfield, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, folios 93, 94, 95.

[28] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, reverse end, folio 2; Conn. Particular Court Records, vol. 2, p. 40; "Private Controversies", vol. 1, document 62, vol. 2, document 172, Conn. State Library, and Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 85.

[29] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 17; "Private Controversies", vol. 1, document 62, Conn.. State Library, and Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 2, p. 85.

[30] Hartford, Conn., Land Records, "Book of Distributions", reverse end, p. 32.

[31] Hartford, Conn., Probate Files, James Boosey will.

THE FAMILY OF
JOHN LOTHROP

The Lathrop Family Memoir states that JOHN LOTHROPP (as he wrote his name) was the son of Thomas Lothrop of Etton, Yorkshire, England, where he was baptized December 20, 1584.[1]

The Memoir also states that he entered Queen's College, Cambridge, in 1601 and graduated with the degree of B.A. in 1605 and M.A. in 1609.[1]

A marriage license was issued at Canterbury, England, October 10, 1610, to Rev. John Lothropp, M.A., curate of Egerton, in the County of Kent, and Hannah Howse of Eastwell, in the same county, to be married at Eastwell.[2]

The parish records indicate that his family was at Egerton as late as 1619.[1]

About 1623 he abandoned the Church of England and became one of the body of Independents and in the following year was chosen pastor of the First Independent Church of London, which at that time was located on Union street, Southwark.

Neal, in his History of the Puritans, writes as follows:

"The discipline of the church being relaxed, the Brownists or Independants, who had assembled in private, and shifted from house to house for twenty or thirty years, resumed their courage, and shewed themselves in publick. We have given an account of their original, from Mr. Robinson and Mr. Jacob, in the year 1616, the last of whom was succeeded by Mr. John Lathorp, formerly a clergyman in Kent, but having renounced his orders, he became pastor of this little society.

In his time the congregation was discovered by Tomlinson, the bishop's pursuivant, April 29, 1632, at the house of Mr. Humphery Barnet, a brewer's clerk in Black-Fryars, where forty-two of them were apprehended, and only eighteen escaped: of those that were taken, some were confined in the Clink, others in New-Prison and the Gatehouse, where they continued about two years and were then released upon bail, except Mr. Lathorp, for whom no favour could be obtained; he therefore petitioned the king for liberty to depart the kingdom, which being granted, he went,

[1] Lathrop Family Memoir, by E. B. Huntington, 1884, pp. 18, 19, 23, 24.
[2] Canterbury Marriage Licenses, first series, 1568-1618, 1892, p. 266.

in the year 1634 to New England, with about thirty of his followers. Mr. Lathorp was a man of learning, and of a meek and quiet spirit".[3]

Nathaniel Morton, Secretary of the Colony of New Plymouth, wrote a work entitled, "New England's Memorial", which was first printed in 1669. On pages 257-8 of the edition of 1826 is this concerning Mr. Lathrop:

"He was greatly troubled, and imprisoned, for witnessing against the errours of the times. During the time of his imprisonment, his wife fell sick, of which sickness she died. He procured liberty of the Bishop to visit his wife before her death, and commended her to God by prayer, who soon after gave up the ghost. At his return to prison, his poor children, being many, repaired to the Bishop to Lambeth, and made known unto him their miserable condition, by reason of their good father, his being continued in close durance; who commiserated their children so far, as to grant him liberty, who soon after came over into New England."

Governor Winthrop, in his History of New England, under date of September 18, 1634, writes thus:

"At this court were many laws made against tobacco, and immodest fashions, and costly apparel, etc., as appears by the Records; and £600 raised towards fortifications and other charges, which were the more hastened, because the Griffin and another ship now arriving with about two hundred passengers and one hundred cattle, (Mr. Lothrop and Mr. Simmes, two godly ministers, coming in the same ship)".[4]

The Scituate Church Records indicate that he at once removed to that town.

"Toutching the Congregation.....of Christ collected att Situate".

"The 28 of September 1634, being the Lord's day, I came to Situate the night before and on the Lord's day spent my first Labours, Fornoone and afternoon.

"Upon the 23 of Novemb. 1634 o^{r} Breathren of Situate that were members at Plimoth were dismissed from their membershipp, in case they joyned in a body att Situate.

"Uppon January 8, 1634, Wee had a day of humiliation and then att night joyned in covenaunt togeather, so many of us as had beene in Covenaunt before."

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[3] History of the Puritans, by Daniel Neal, 1793, vol. 2, pp. 373-4.

[4] History of New England, by John Winthrop, Boston, 1853, vol. 1, p. 170.

Here follows the list of members, consisting of four men, each with his wife, then five other men, the third one of whom was "Myselfe".[5]

It has been stated that Mr. Lothrop's first wife died while he was imprisoned in London.

That he married again before June 14, 1635, is shown by an entry of that date on the Scituate Church Records which reads:

"My Wife and Brother Foxwell's wife joyned having their dismission from elsewhere".[5]

It has been supposed that he only married twice, but the Genealogical Notes of Barnstable Families, compiled by Amos Otis and revised by Charles F. Swift, states that Mr. Lothrop married February 16, 1636-7, widow ANN HAMMOND.[6]

Ann was the name of Mr. Lothrop's last wife, who survived him; if the date of this marriage is correct, the authority for which is unknown to the compiler of this sketch, she must have been Mr. Lothrop's third wife.

The indications are, however, that this date of marriage is erroneous.

We now know that John Lothrop's first wife was probably HANNAH HOUSE of Eastwell in the County of Kent.

Samuel House was one of the members of the Scituate Church at its organization January 8, 1634-5.[5]

Possibly he was a brother of Mr. Lothrop's first wife. House married Elizabeth Hammond, daughter of William Hammond of Watertown, and his first child, Elizabeth, was baptized October 23, 1636.[7]

Mr. Lothrop made this entry on the Scituate Church Records:

"Elizabeth Hammon my Sister having a dismission from the church at Watertowne was joyned Aprill 14, 1636."[8]

Was she not at this time the wife of Samuel House and, through an inadvertence, her maiden name instead of her married one entered on the records?

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[5] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 9, p. 279.

[6] Genealogical Notes of Barnstable Families, vol. 2, p. 162.

[7] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 9, p. 281; vol. 10, p. 85, and Bond's Genealogies of Watertown, 1860, pp. 269, 270.

[8] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 9, p. 280.

If so, this could account for Mr. Lothrop's calling her "my Sister".

Until something further is discovered, it is useless to theorize as to the maiden name and parentage of Ann, the last wife of Reverend John Lothrop.

At the General Court of Plymouth Colony which opened on the 7th of June 1637,

"M^r. John Lathrop, pastor of Scituate, Thomas Hill, Francis Sprage, and Georg Bower were admitted freemen, and tooke their oaths."[10]

In 1639 he and a number of the other inhabitants of Scituate removed to Cape Cod and made a settlement in what has since been called Barnstable, the Church Records indicating the date of "our Comeing to Barnstable" as "Octob. 11, 1639."[11]

November 1, 1640,

"John Lothrope Pastor of the Church of Barnstable in America",

sold to

"Tymothy Hatherley of Scituate gent one dwelling house together wth barne and outhouses therto belonging together wth all such lands both vplands & Marsh grounds as therto belong lying and being nigh to the first hering brooke about a quarter of a mile more or lesse eastward therefrom in Scituate aforesaid. The vpland lying and bounding on this manner towards the lands of Mr Checkett on the West towards the lands of John Hewes and the heigh way on the South towards the Comon and the lands of John Winter & John Emerson on the North towards the Lands of Humfrey Turner on the East being ꝑted by a little Creeke."

He also sold him twenty acres of marsh, bounded west on lands of Mr. Checkett, east on Mr. Tilden and Humfrey Turner, north on the highway and south on the North River: also

"my great lott containeing an hundred acrees of ground lying vp the Riuer not farr from Scituate together wth my diuident of Marsh ground thereto belonging"

The consideration mentioned in the deed was fourscore pounds.[12]

December 28, 1640, he sold for £14 to Richard Scillis of Scituate, planter, a house and five acres of land in Scituate,

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[10] Plymouth Colony Records, vol. 1, p. 60.

[11] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 9, p. 281.

[12] Plymouth Colony Records, vol. 12, pp. 66, 67.

bounded north on the land of Egline Hanford, east on the common footpath from Stony Creek to the harbor's mouth, south on land of Thomas Ensign and west on a lane extending from Stony Brook into the woods.[13]

Little is known of the later life of Mr. Lothrop, but Morton in his Memorial under the year 1653 has this to say of him:

He "settled for some time at the town of Scituate, and was chosen pastor of their church, and faithfully dispensing the word of God amongst them. And afterwards, the church dividing, a part whereof removed to Barnstable, he removed with them, and there remained until his death. He was a man of humble and broken heart and spirit, lively in dispensation of the word of God, studious of peace, furnished with godly contentment, willing to spend, and to be spent, for the cause of the church of Christ. He fell asleep in the Lord, November 8, 1653."[14]

On page 122 of volume 1 of Plymouth Colony Wills is entered a copy of his unfinished will given below. He neither signed it nor named an executor, therefore the records of Plymouth Colony show that on March 7, 1653-4,

"Mis Laythorp is graunted lres of adminnestracon to adminnester on the estate of Mr John Laythorp, deceased. Mr Thomas Prence is appointed and requested by the Court to take oath vnto the estate att home."[15]

"The last Will and Testament of Mr. John Lothropp ye pastour of the Church of Christ att Barnstable, August 10th 1653.

"First. I will and bequeath unto my wife the house wherein I now dwell with the furniture thereof, and the ground belonging thereunto with the marsh land that lyeth on the East besides Randevow Creek, and alsoe my ground in the Common field.

"To my son Thomas my eldest sonne I will and bequeath the house I first lived in in Barnstable with the ground belonging thereunto and the marsh joyning to the lower end thereof which butts and bounds upon the Creeke northward, with this condition, that hee my said sonne Thomas is to give to my sonne John in England and to my sonne Benjamin heer in the bay each of them a good Cow of five pounds

"My daughter Jane and my daughter Barbarah have had their portions alreaddy.

"To the rest of my children both mine and my wives my will is that every [one] of them shall have a Cow.

"My will is alsoe that my great lott and my great marsh shall be sold to some particular person and that which comes by the sale thereof to be equally divided amongst them that have the least portions.

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[13] Plymouth Colony Records, vol. 12, p. 71.

[14] New England's Memorial, by Nathaniel Morton, Boston, 1826, pp. 257-8.

[15] Plymouth Colony Records, vol. 3, p. 46.

"Lastly for my books, if there be amongst them any that may be useful to my children let every [one] of them have one, if there will arise soo many and lett their choice thereof bee in order according to their ages.

"The rest of the bookes let them be sold to any honest man whoo can tell how to make use of them and that which comes thereby lett it bee divided as is aforesaid."[16]

"This 8th of december 1653

A true Inventory of the Cattle and goods of Mr. John Lothropp ye pastour of the Church of Christ at Barnstable, late deceased:"

"Imprimis — The Cowes vallued att	26:00:00.
It. 3 two Yearlings	07:10:00.
It. 2 calves	01:00:00.
It. 5 Piggs	00:15:00.
It. his wearing apparrel of all sorts	13:09:00.
It. a bedsteade with bedd and furniture	05:10:00.
It. a bed and furniture	02:00:00.
It. Sheets, napkins with other linin	02:16:00.
It. 5 Chests with a cubbard and hangings	00:14:00.
It. Table, Chaires and Cushens	01:00:00.
It. Tubbs and other Wooden Lumber	01:11:00.
It. pewter	01:15:00.
It. Tin and earthen ware	00:07:06.
It. 4 brasse kettles with other brasse	02:00:00.
It. one Iron Pott, Kittle hangers with other iron	00:14:00.
It. one Muskett	00:10:00.
It. his bookes	05:00:00.
It. for other small things omitted	00:05:00.
The totall sume	72:16:06."

"Taken per us. Thomas dimmocke
Henery Cobb
John Cooper
Thomas Hinckley"[16]

It will be noticed that in his will Mr. Lothrop refers to a son Thomas as "my eldest sonne", and also makes mention of "my sonne John in England". The Egerton Church Records show that he had a son John, baptized February 22, 1617-'18, and the Barnstable Church Records show that he had another son John, baptized February 9, 1644. At the date of this will, August 10, 1653, the elder John, if living, would have been thirty-five years old, the younger John about eight years and a half old. A study

[16] Plymouth Colony Probate Records, vol. 1, p. 122.

of English family history shows instances where a man was married twice and had a son by each marriage, both bearing the same Christian name and both living to maturity.

It would seem very improbable that, in the middle of the seventeenth century, a child under ten years of age should be living in old England, while his parents were residing in New England. The natural inference is that the son John in England was the elder John and consequently Thomas was the "eldest sonne" *living in New England.*

There are no known records of the Barnstable Church from the death of Reverend John Lothrop until the pastorate of Reverend Jonathan Russell, who was ordained September 19, 1683. The Church Records contain a list of the members who were living at that date and among them we find

"Widdow Anna Lothrop of Pastor Lothrop"[17]

"Mrs Ann Lothrop Departed this Life Feb. 25 Day 1687-8"[18]

CHILDREN OF JOHN LOTHROP

JANE	b.	bap. Sept. 29, 1614;[20]	mar. Apr. 8, 1635, Samuel Fuller[21] of Scituate and Barnstable, Mass.
ANNE	"	" May 12, 1616;[20]	bur. Apr. 30, 1617.[20]
JOHN	"	" Feb. 22, 1617-18;[20]	living probably in England in 1653.[22]
BARBARA	"	" Oct. 31, 1619;[20]	mar. July 19, 1638, Emerson.[23]
THOMAS	" about 1621;[19]		" Dec. 11, 1639, widow (Linnett or Larnett) Ewer[23] and lived in Barnstable, Mass.

[17] Gustavus A. Hinckley manuscripts, New Eng. Historic-Genealogical Society, Boston, Mass.

[18] Barnstable, Mass., Births. Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 427.

[19] Barnstable, Mass., Town Records, vol. 1, p. 21.

[20] These four children were baptized and one buried at Egerton, Kent County, England. See Lathrop Family Memoir, p. 37.

[21] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 9, pp. 281, 286.

[22] Plymouth Colony Wills, vol. 1, p. 122, will of Rev. John Lothrop.

[23] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 9, p. 286.

SAMUEL	b.			mar. 1, Nov. 28, 1644, Elizabeth Scudder.[23] 2, 1690, Abigail Done.[27]
JOSEPH	"		"	Dec. 11, 1650, Mary Ansell,[28] and lived in Barnstable, Mass.
BENJAMIN	"		"	Martha [29] and lived in Charlestown Mass.
BARNABAS	"	"	June 6, 1636;[24]	" 1, Nov. 3, 1658, or Dec. 1, 1658, Susannah Clark.[30] 2, Nov. 15, 1698, Abigail ( ) Dudson,[31] and lived in Barnstable, Mass.
DAUGHTER	"			bur. July 30, 1638.[32]
ABIGAIL	"	"	Nov. 2, 1639;[24]	mar. Oct. 7, 1657, James Clark.[33]
BATHSHUA	"	"	Feb. 27, 1641-2;[25]	perhaps mar. 1, before 1672, Benjamin Bale[34] of Dorchester and Boston, Mass. 2, Alexander Marsh[35] of Braintree, Mass.
JOHN	"	"	Feb. 9, 1644-5;[26]	mar. 1, Jan. 3, 1671, Mary Cole, Jr.[36] 2, "About ye Middle of December 1695", Hannah ( ) Fuller[37] and lived in Barnstable, Mass.
SON	"	Jan., 1649;[23]		bur. Jan. 25, 1649.[23]

[24] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 9, p. 281.

[25] Ibid., vol. 9, p. 282.

[26] Ibid., vol. 9, p. 283.

[27] New England Weekly Journal for Monday, April 14, 1735, Mass. Historical Society Library, and Caulkins's History of Norwich, Conn., 1866, pp. 217-218.

[28] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 9, p. 287, and Barnstable, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 426.

[29] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 23, pp. 283, 437, and vol. 25, pp. 342, 343, Charlestown, Mass., Church Records.

[30] Plymouth Colony Records, vol. 8, p. 22, and Barnstable, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 427.

[31] Boston Record Commissioners' Report, vol. 9, p. 244.

[32] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 9, p. 285.

SAMUEL LOTHROP, son of Reverend John Lothrop, is supposed to have been somewhat younger than his brother Thomas, who was born about 1621. If this is correct, Samuel was about twenty-one or twenty-two years old when he "marryed" November 28, 1644, ELIZABETH SCUDDER.[38]

Nothing is known definitely of her parentage. It is claimed that she was a sister of John Scudder who, according to Otis, became a resident of Barnstable in 1640,[39] but nothing has been found to prove such relationship.

The records of the First Church of Boston contain these entries:

"The 28th: day of ye 5th Moneth 1644".
"Elizabeth Scudder or brother Gamaliell Waytes maid"

admitted

"The 10th: day of ye 9th: Moneth 1644".
"Our Sister Elizabeth Scudder wth ye Consent of ye Church by their silence was granted lres of Recomendation to ye Church at Barnstable."[40]

Samuel Lothrop did not long remain at Barnstable after his marriage, but became one of the settlers of the new plantation at Nameag or Pequod, in Connecticut, which in 1658 was given the name of New London.

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[33] Plymouth Colony Records, vol. 8, p. 17.

[34] Boston Record Commissioners' Report, vol. 9, p. 122; Suffolk County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 9, p. 11, and Suffolk County, Mass., Deeds, vol. 17, pp. 322, 324.

[35] Suffolk County, Mass., Deeds, vol. 17, pp. 322, 324; Suffolk County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 8, p. 128, will of Alexander Marsh, and New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 5, p. 255.

[36] Barnstable, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 427, and Plymouth Colony Records, vol. 8, p. 23.

[37] Barnstable, Mass., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. 1, p. 427, and Barnstable County, Mass., Probate Records, vol. 2, p. 107.

[38] New Eng. Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 9, p. 286.

[39] Genealogical Notes of Barnstable Families, vol. 2, p. 233.

[40] First Church, Boston, Admissions, 1630-1687, pp. 70, 72, copy in City Registrar's office, Boston, Mass.

"ffebruary 25 1647".

"The Inhabitants of Nameag Did Chuse wth ioy[nt consent] Mr John Winthrop Robert Hempsted Samuell Loth[rop Isarke] Willey and Thomas Mynor to Act in all Towne af[faires] as the other ffoure Did the last yeere wth Mr Jno Win[throp] haueing the same power as the other had the last yeer on[ly] no planting Ground must be granted or laid out for this yeere but in the Generall Corne feild at ffoxsons hill: the other side of the great riuer Wee may lay out by lot only it must be laid out"[41]

Governor John Winthrop, in a letter dated "Boston 14 (6) 48", ... "To my good son Mr. Jo. Winthrop, at Pequod", alludes to Mr. Lathrop.

"My Good Son,

I bless the Lord, and rejoice with thee in the safe delivery of my dear daughter, and the comfort of your little Martha. We find by frequent experience, that where the Lord withholds the ordinary means, he supplies with the greater blessing upon such as he affords us. I hope you will find the like gracious goodness, in spiritual blessings, upon such means as you can attain, until you may be supplied with a public ministry. There were three hopeful young men commenced Masters of arts this last commencement, one is schoolmaster at Concord, another at Hartford and a third at [ ].

"Your neighor Lathrop came not at me (as I expected) to advise about it; but went away without taking leave, etc. Only inquiring after him, I sent my letters to the house where he wrought, the day before his departure."[42]

"At a meeting of the Freemen of the Jurissdiction of Connecticutt, for the choyce of Magistrates, the 17th of May, 1649."

. . . . . .

"Vppon the desire of the inhabitants of Pequet, for theire incouragement it is Graunted by this Courte, that they shall bee freed from all publick Country charges, (except such as are occassioned by themselues,) for the space of three yeares next ensuing:

"It is allso Graunted, that the bounds of the plantation of Pequett shall be foure myles on each side the Riuer, and six myles from the sea northward into the Country, till the Courte shall see cause and haue incouragement to add therevnto, provided they interteine none amongst them as inhabitants that shall bee obnoxious to this Jurissdiction, and that the aforesaid bounds bee not distributed to less than forty familyes:

[41] New London, Conn., Town Records, "1647-1666", p. 3, and Caulkins's History of New London, 1852, p. 57.

[42] History of New England, by John Winthrop, 1853, vol. 2, pp. 433-434.

"And for the setling of some way for the deciding of small differences amongst them, vnder the value of forty shillings, It is ordered by this Courte, that Capt. Mason shall haue power to giue the oath of magistracy to John Wenthrope Esqr, for the yeare ensueing, and vntill a new bee chosen, whoe shall haue power (taking vnto himselfe Thomas Mynott and Samuell Lathrop, as Assistants,) to heare and determine the same; prouided if any bee greiued, they shall haue libberty to appeale to the Courte at Connecticutt, if they haue just cause so to doe:"[43]

On folio 34 of the reverse end of volume 2 of the New London Land Records, under date of December 2, 1651, is an entry showing that Samuel Lothrop

"Hath giuen him eight Ackers of old Grounde in the Common field Lying betweene Will. Welman and Mr Richard Blynman till you come to the highway y^t goes to the Meaddowes and from the way to Alewiue brooke bounded towardes the south wth will. Nyccolls his lott".

He also had two hundred and fifty acres on Mystic Hill and sixteen acres in the Second Division in the General Neck.

At various later dates he received a number of pieces of land in different parts of the town.

In January 1654 he sold to Mr. Richard Blinman, the minister of the town, twenty-four acres in the General Neck,[44] and his land at Mystic Hill he conveyed to Robert Park, in March 1656-7.[45]

June 15, 1662, he and his wife Elizabeth sold to James Rogers two hundred and fifty-eight acres lying westward of Mystic River,[46] and August 13, following, they gave to Reverend Gershom Bulkley a deed of Lothrop's house and house-lot of six acres, also two pieces of land on "ffoxson's" hill, containing six acres and ten acres respectively.[47]

While still a resident of New London, on November 4, 1665, he sold to Myers Moore certain lands which had been granted to him by the town on the other side of Mill Brook.[48]

In September 1669 there were recorded to him twelve acres in the 7th tier of lots in the General Neck, six acres in the 5th

[43] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, pp. 185, 186.
[44] New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 3, folio 6.
[45] Ibid., vol. 3, folio 46.
[46] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 156.
[47] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 157.
[48] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 189.

tier of lots and four acres towards Goshen, both in the General Neck, also four acres of land near Goshen Pond.[49]

It is suspected that these lands were granted to him some little time before the date of record.

In August 1668 he had become a resident of the town of Norwich. On the twenty-fourth of that month, in consideration of £48, John Elderkin and his wife Elizabeth conveyed to Lothrop three pieces of land containing forty, six and ten acres respectively.[50]

They are more fully described on page 283 of the copy of the "Book of Grants", thus:

"Lands Belonging unto Samuell Lothrup Seni^or^ of Norwich his heirs or assignes

"His Homelott 6 acres more or less abutting Southerly on the Town Street; Thirty Six rodds. West on highway 32 rods North on highway 29 rods East on highway 32 rods bought of John Elderkin August 24, 1668".

Seventy acres of "upland meadow Swamp and wast land att Shautuckitt" bounded east on the river; the greater part bought of John Elderkin August 24, 1668, and the rest granted by the town.

In the same record are entered several other grants to him: twenty-five acres northward of the seventy acres, twenty acres of the same, granted to him by the town "in Consideration of heightning of the meeting house";[51] one hundred and fifty acres of upland on "South westward end of the Westward hill" granted by the town, December 26, 1679, "as satisfaction for his work about the Gallire"; nine and one-half acres at Yantic, bought of John Elderkin, August 24, 1668; two hundred and forty acres on east side of Pease's River, also six and one-quarter acres of pasture on the west side of Mill Brook.

In November 1687 he and five others purchased in common of Reverend James Fitch of Norwich, four hundred and forty acres of land in that town.[52]

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[49] New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 6, folio 19.

[50] Norwich, Conn., Land Records, copy, vol. 1, pp. 37, 457, and New London, Conn., County Court Records, unpaged.

[51] The Record of the vote authorizing this grant states that it was "upō the account of the advancement of the meeting house higher".

[52] Norwich, Conn., Land Records, copy, vol. A, p. 167.

The grant to him by the town of Norwich of twenty acres of land, "in consideration of heightning of the meeting house", would seem to indicate that his trade was that of a carpenter or builder. This idea is further strengthened by the fact that on September 17, 1678, the Townsmen of New London entered into an agreement with John Elderkin and Samuel Lothrop, both of Norwich, for the building of a meeting "howss" for said town of New London.[53]

Disputes seem to have arisen as to whether this agreement was fully complied with, and on the following page of the record we find the decision of John Frink and Edward De Wolfe, arbitrators chosen to decide the matter. The decision is dated June 13, 1682. The arbitrators say regarding the work of the contractors,

"and doe see that what they have neglected in some Small things according to agreem^{t}. that they have made vp in other thinges soe y^{t}. as farr as our reason can giue vs leaue to Judg that there is noe fault to bee Laid to the Carpenters And the Carpenters should haue what is there due according to Artickles of agreem^{t}"

This award of the arbitrators does not seem to have brought the business to a conclusion, for the records of the New London County Court show that at a session of the Court, held in September 1699, Samuel Lothrop, Senior, of Norwich, "carpenter", brought suit against Major Edward Palmes of New London, Townsman for 1678, and others, "present Townsmen", to recover a debt due him.

The result of the suit was that in April 1705 there were laid out to his son Samuel eight and one-quarter acres in payment of the debt due the father for the building of the meeting house.[54]

February 10, 1687, Samuel Lothrop, Senior, of Norwich sold to James Rogers of New London twenty-two acres in the General Neck in the latter town.[55]

September 11, 1688, he gave to his "loveing son" Samuel, one-half of his "houseing land and orchard" at Namucksuck on the west side of the Great River in the bounds of New London. The consideration of the deed was that the grantee had already

[53] New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 4, folio 18.
[54] Ibid., vol. 6, folio 160.
[55] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 115.

paid the grantor's son, John Lothrop, "fifty pounds provision pay".[56]

On the following day he made another conveyance to his son Samuel of ten acres at "Shawtuckett", on the west side of the river, and on the 27th of the following November he gave him twenty-two rods of land "where his house stands", also three and three-quarter acres of pasture land on the east side of the brook against the house.[57]

He gave to his son Israel Lothrop on March 24, 1696, a deed of the seventy-seven acres bought of James Fitch.[58]

He was on the jury of the County Court in November 1665, June 1667, November 1682 and '83, September 1687, August 1690, and September 1691.[59]

At the annual town meeting held in December 1673 he was chosen to the office of Constable, and twelve years later a Townsman for the "east end of the Town".[60]

June 5, 1683, he was appointed by the County Court, Grand Juror for Norwich.[59]

Nothing is known as to the date of death of his wife Elizabeth. He is said to have married at Plymouth, Massachusetts, about 1691, ABIGAIL DONE.[61]

"Mr Samuell Lothrup: Deceased february 29th anno Domini 1699/700"

Thus reads the entry on page 22 of original volume 1 of Norwich Births, Marriages and Deaths.

In his will, made five days previous to his death, he gave to his wife, not mentioning her by name, the use of the house and homestead and "all the moveables", together with the rent of his farm at New London, and hay sufficient to winter two cows, all during her widowhood. He gave to his wife absolutely the household stuff she brought with her at the time of her marriage.

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[56] New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 8, folio 140, and Norwich, Conn., Land Records, copy, vol. 2 A, p. 312.

[57] Norwich, Conn., Land Records, copy, vol. 1, pp. 18, 34.

[58] Ibid., vol. 2 B, p. 433.

[59] New London, Conn., County Court Records, unpaged.

[60] Norwich, Conn., Town Votes.

[61] New England Weekly Journal for April 14, 1735, Mass. Historical Society's Library, and Caulkins's History of Norwich, Conn., 1866, pp. 217-218.

The rest of the personal estate he gave to his daughters in equal shares at his wife's death or "when she alters her condition".

The will stated that his son John had already received his full share.

To his son Samuel he gave his two-hundred-acre farm at "Peagscomsuck".

His sons Israel and Joseph were given the farm at Shousach, (Shautucket?) with twenty-six acres adjoining, his three hundred acre farm toward Lebanon and ten acres of meadow at Yantic, also at his wife's death or remarriage, the house and homestead.

His son Israel was given six acres of pasture above his son Joseph's residence, and to the three sons Samuel, Israel and Joseph he gave his interest in the undivided lands of the town.[62]

Evidently, owing to his enfeebled condition, the document was not signed, nevertheless, as a nuncupative will, it was presented to the County Court at New London, April 8, 1700, and administration thereon was granted to the widow and his son Israel Lothrop.[63]

At the same time an inventory of the estate was presented. The property was valued as follows:

House and home-lot	£180–00–00
70 acres and buildings at Shautucket	70–00–00
25 acres north of the 70 acres	12–10–00
150 acres on Westward hill	40–00–00
9½ acres of meadow at Yantic	19–00–00
240 acres on the east side of Pease's River	30–00–00
6¼ acres of pasture	5–00–00
½ of farm at Namucksuck on the west side of the Great River in New London bounds	100–00–00
making a total of	£456–10–00
Besides this real estate, there were cattle, sheep, household furniture, clothing, etc., which made the whole estate	£626–13–01.[64]

[62] New London, Conn., Probate Records, modern vol. A, p. 102.
[63] New London, Conn., County Court Records, unpaged.
[64] New London, Conn., Probate Records, modern vol. A, p. 109.

Appended to the inventory was a list of the children or legatees:

"John, decd., Samuel, Israel, Joseph, Elizabeth deceased, Sarah, Martha, Abigall, Ann".[64]

"Mrs Abigail Lothrup: the widow and Relict of Mr Samuell Lothrup formerly of Norwich Deceased, Died on the 23th day of Janary 1734/5".[65]

In the *New England Weekly Journal* for Monday, April 14, 1735, is a lengthy notice of her from which we make some extracts:

"Norwich (in Connecticut) March 3."

"On the 23d of January last, died here old Mrs. Abigail Lothrop, in the 104th Year of her Age, and was decently inter'd the next day, numbers attending her Funeral, agreeable to what might be expected on so extraordinary an occasion.

"Her Father Mr. John Done with his wife in 1630 came from England to Plymouth, where in the following Year this Daughter was Born, who continued in a single state of Life till the 60th Year of her Age, when Mr. John Lothrop of Norwich Married her, who lived very happily with her about ten Years, and then died, leaving her under the care of his Children; who have always discovered a very filial Respect and Duty to her, till the Day of her Death.

"Her natural Accomplishments were rarely equall'd by any of her Sex; She was a person of quick Understanding, great Penetration, solid Judgment, strong Memory, and easy Elocution. And as it is rare to see these all meet in one Person, with such Eminence; so more especially to observe them continue unto, and thro' old Age, and such an eminent old Age, as they did in Her; for she retain'd the most of them in such a degree, that at an 100 she did not discover those Decays, which are common at 60 or 70. The firmness of her Constitution and the vigor of her mind, made her the wonder of all observers, especially as they render'd her capable of very entertaining Conversation, particularly on divine & religious Subjects, almost to the end of her days.....

.....

"The Family which she Married into, are one of the more considerable in the Town both for Numbers and Weight whose remarkable Prosperity may have been not a little in Answer of her Prayers for them. They are a very numerous Family which sprang from Mr. Lothrop, and the surviving at the day of her Death, taking in his Children's Children unto the fourth Generation, were reckoned 365, and 'tis supposed, that in all, who are scattered abroad, they are many more.

"When she was an 100 Years old, she desired that a Lecture might be attended at her House, and a Sermon preach'd on that Occasion, and accordingly was gratified with one, from Psalms 71:18, 19. O God thou has taught me from my youth, and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous

[65] Norwich, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, p. 22.

works. Now, also, when I am old, and gray-headed O God forsake me not.

"And when she had begun a new Century, she still applied her self to her great work, with that vigor and diligence, as if she had a new race to run and all her time cou'dn't be too much to improve in order to finish well. The nearer she came to it, the stronger did the Attraction appear to be, and the greater her confidence and her pleasure in looking into Eternity; and when she came very nigh, being apprehensive of it, desired she might have an easy passage, which she was gratified in, and gave up the Ghost without a struggle or a groan.

On the Sabbath following, was preach'd her funeral Sermon from Gen. 25:8. Then Abraham gave up the ghost & died in a good old age; an old man, and full of years, and was gathered to his people."

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL AND ELIZABETH (SCUDDER) LOTHROP

JOHN	b. Dec., 1646;[66] bap. 10 m. 7 d. 1645;[67]	mar. Dec. 15, 1669, Ruth Royce.[68]
ELIZABETH	" Mar., 1648;[66]	" 1, Dec. 15, 1669, Isaac Royce[68] of Wallingford, Conn. 2, before June 11, 1690, Joseph Thompson[69] of Wallingford, Conn.
SAMUEL	" Mar., 1650;[66]	" 1, Nov., 1675, Hannah Adgate.[70] 2, Dec. 30, 1697, Mary (Reynolds) Edgerton[70] and lived in Norwich, Conn.
SARAH	" Oct., 1655;[66]	" Apr. 21, 1681, Nathaniel Royce[71] of Wallingford, Conn.
MARTHA	" Jan., 1657;[66]	" Dec. 12, 1676, John Moss[72] of Wallingford, Conn.

[66] Norwich, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, pp. 15, 22.

[67] Records of First Church, Boston, Mass. As the baptisms are entered chronologically, it is evident that the date of John's birth as entered on the Norwich Records is one year too late.

[68] New London, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 1, reverse end, unpaged.

[69] New Haven, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 1, p. 178.

[70] Norwich, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, pp. 13, 46.

[71] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 51.

[72] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 49.

Israel	b. Oct., 1659;[66]	mar. Apr. 8, 1686, Rebecca Bliss.[73]
Joseph	" Oct., 1661;[66]	" 1, Apr. 8, 1686, Marcy Scudder.[73] 2, Feb. 2, 1696-7, Elizabeth Waterhouse.[73] 3, Nov. 22, 1727, Martha (Morgan) Perkins[74] and lived in Norwich, Conn.
Abigail	" May, 1665;[66]	" Dec. 9, 1686, John Huntington[75] of Norwich, Conn.
Ann	" Aug., 1667;[66]	" William Hough[76] of New London, Conn.

John Lothrop, eldest child of Samuel and Elizabeth (Scudder) Lothrop, was probably born in Boston, where he was baptized 10 mo. (December), 7 day, 1645. The entry in the handwriting of Governor John Winthrop on the records of the First Church of Boston reads thus:

"The 7th day of the 10th moneth 1645 by or Pastor . . . .
John Lothrop ye Sonne of or Sister Sometime or formrly called Elizabeth Skuddar now ye wife of one John Scuddar".

It will be remembered that in the sketch of Samuel Lothrop, John's father, extracts from these same Church Records are given, showing the admission to the church of Elizabeth Scudder and of her dismission to Barnstable, in 1644. At this date there was a John Scudder living in Barnstable. The date of his marriage is not on record. He had children baptized in 1646 and at his death in 1689 he left a widow Hannah.

It would seem as if Governor Winthrop must have made a mistake in this entry in calling Elizabeth the wife of John Scudder instead of Samuel Lothrop.

John Lothrop was but a young child when his parents removed from Barnstable to New London, Connecticut, where he was

[73] Norwich, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, p. 42.
[74] Ibid., original vol. 1, pp. 41, 60.
[75] Ibid., original vol. 1, p. 48.
[76] Ibid., original vol. 1, p. 15; New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 11, folio 30, and Caulkins's History of New London, Conn., 1852, p. 303.

married December 15, 1669, to RUTH ROYCE, daughter of Robert Royce of New London, by Daniel Witherell, Commissioner. His sister Elizabeth was married to Isaac Royce, his wife's brother, at the same time.[77]

He does not seem to have owned any land in New London and it is not known that he held any public office. Owing to the theft from the Wallingford Town Clerk's office of the first volume of Town Votes, containing the record of the admission of inhabitants into the town, it is uncertain just when he left New London and became a resident of Wallingford, but it was prior to April 1678, when his daughter Elizabeth was born.[78]

On page 126 of volume 1 of Wallingford Land Records is this entry:

"febreuary y^e: 10: 1687: Laid out for John Lothrup"
"Seuerall persells of Land that haue bene granted to him by ye Town as in folio:
":40 acres granted him on account of the mill.
"22 acres more to make up his 1st division as a planter in ye town to ye 40 acres granted him on a/c of the mill as may appear in folio
"3½ of his 2^d division ye first ½ as in folio 99 which is 105 acres these all laid out in one piece. . . .
"These 3 parcels lye for 167 acres more or less"

There were also entered to him a number of other tracts.

The Wallingford Records show that

"John Lothrup aged forty foure deseaced in August ye 26 1688".[79]

His widow Ruth married Abraham Doolittle February 12, 1689.[79]

At a session of the New Haven County Court, held June 11, 1690, an inventory of the estate of John Lothrop, late of Wallingford, deceased, intestate, was presented and approved for record.

The widow "desireing to renounce ye administration (shee beinge again marryed)" administration was granted to Nathaniel Royce "her own brother".

One-third of the personal estate was given to the widow absolutely, with the life use of one-third of the real estate, and £5-10 was allowed her for bringing up the youngest child.

[77] New London, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 1, reverse end, unpaged.
[78] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 49.
[79] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 52.

The remainder of the property was ordered set to the children, the eldest son to have a double share, the sons to receive their shares at 21 and the daughters at 18.[80]

How long Ruth (Royce), widow of John Lothrop and wife of Abraham Doolittle, lived after the date of this court entry is not known.

On old page 50, new page 39, of volume 2 of the New Haven Probate Records, is a copy of the inventory of John Lothrop's estate, which was taken May 18, 1690.

The real estate consisted of

House and 9 acres of land,	£ 29–00–00
6 acres at Round Hill,	3–00–00
33 acres on the east side of the river near the mill	
3 acres on the west side of the river above the mill,	1–10–00
3 acres of hop land at Pilgrim Harbor,	2–10–00
Farm of 167 acres on small brook near Daniel Harper's meadow,	40–00–00
Second farm of 82 acres, one-half mile east of the first,	
Corn mill	50–00–00
besides personal property, the whole amounting to	£202–07–00

March 25, 1703, Ensign Nathaniel Royce of Wallingford, administrator on the estate of John Lothrop, appeared in court and showed acknowledgements from the six children of the receipt by them of their shares of said estate.[81] The receipts from four of the children, Ruth, Bethiah, John and Hannah, are recorded on pages 226, 258, 292 and 319 of volume 1 of Wallingford Land Records.

William Tyler of Wallingford, husband of Mary Lothrop, bought out the interests of several of the heirs in the mill property[82] and Samuel Lothrop purchased the rights of his

[80] New Haven, Conn., County Court Records, vol. 1, p. 178.

[81] Ibid., copy, vol. 2, p. 121.

[82] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, pp. 113, 114, 160, 556.

brother John and sisters Ruth, Mary, Elizabeth and Hannah in the property of their sister Bethiah, who died unmarried.[83]

The Land Records also show further deeds from several of the children conveying their rights in other Lothrop lands.

CHILDREN OF JOHN AND RUTH (ROYCE) LOTHROP

SAMUEL[84]	b.		mar. 1, Feb. 3, 1703-4, Ruth Peck.[89] 2, Sept. 27, 1738, Lydia Elcock[90] and lived in Wallingford, Conn.
RUTH[85]	"	"	Mar. 17, 1697-8, Samuel Post[91] of Norwich, Conn.
MARY[85]	"	"	before Sept. 7, 1695, William Tyler[85] of Wallingford, Conn.
ELIZABETH	" Apr. 15, 1678;[86]	"	Sept. 24, 1702, Bowley Arnold of Windham and Mansfield,[92] Conn.
JOHN	" May 19, 1680;[86]	"	1, Oct. 12, 1706, Abiah Saunders.[93] 2, Feb. 14, 1721, Lydia Palmeter[94] and lived in Wallingford and Norwich, Conn.
BETHIAH	" Dec. 27, 1682;[87]	died Dec. 8, 1716, unm.[95]	
BARNABAS	" June 14, 1685;[88]	nothing further known about him.	
HANNAH	" Jan. 31, 1686;[88]	mar. 1, Feb. 17, 1706-7, Samuel Thomson[96] of Farmington, Conn. 2, before Nov. 2, 1744, Samuel Parker[97] of Coventry, Conn.	

[83] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 3, pp. 64, 225, 542.
[84] Ibid., vol. 3, pp. 64, 542.
[85] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 542.
[86] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 49.
[87] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 50.
[88] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 51.
[89] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 161.
[90] Ibid., vol. 5, p. 538.
[91] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 542, and Norwich, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, p. 59.
[92] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 710, and Windham, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, vol. A, first part, p. 33.
[93] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, fly leaf.
[94] Ibid., vol. 12, p. 96, and Norwich, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, p. 75.
[95] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 806.
[96] Farmington, Conn., Land Records, vol. 2, p. 125.
[97] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 10, p. 20.

THE FAMILY OF

ROBERT ROYCE

Some writers have claimed that ROBERT RICE or ROYCE, who was living in Boston in 1640 with a wife Elizabeth, was the same person who later appeared in New London, Connecticut, with a wife Mary.

An examination of the Suffolk County Deeds proves beyond question that Robert Royce of Boston died prior to October 1668, at which date his widow had become the wife of Michael Tarne or Tearn.[1]

Other facts set forth later show that Robert Royce of New London, the subject of this sketch, was living in 1670, thus proving the impossibility of this claim.

The Land Records of Stratford, Connecticut, state that a Robert Rise had granted to him in that town, eight pieces of land including a two acre home-lot, all of which were recorded to him September 16, 1658.[2]

This home-lot was sold by him to Thomas Wheeler and by Wheeler to Richard Beach of Stratford, both sales being recorded February 6, 1660.[3]

In the former entry Wheeler is described as "now of Paugusit",[4] indicating that he had changed his residence from Stratford to "Paugusit" between the date of sale and the date of record.

The Derby Town Records disclose the fact that in May 1657 the Indians granted Thomas Wheeler forty acres of land at the junction of the "Podertoke" and "Nagatuck" Rivers, conditioned on his residing thereon.[5]

The last of the eight pieces recorded to Rise at Stratford was a tract of land of three and one-quarter acres near the ferry.

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[1] Suffolk County, Mass., Deeds, vol. 9, pp. 352, 393.

[2] Stratford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, old folio 62, new p. 101.

[3] Ibid., vol. 1, old folio 106, new p. 188, and old folio 109, new p. 194.

[4] Ibid., vol. 1, old folio 106, new p. 188.

[5] Town Records of Derby, Conn., 1655-1710, p. 60.

June 24, 1667, this tract was recorded to Moses Wheeler, as having been bought of Robert Rise.[6]

In these early entries on the Stratford Records, the residences of the parties are often omitted and in some cases it is known that the record was made some time after the sale took place.

If Robert Rise was a resident of Stratford in February 1660 when the sale of his home-lot was recorded to Thomas Wheeler, and in June 1667 when Moses Wheeler is recorded as having bought his meadow near the ferry, he could not have been the Robert Rice or Royce of New London of whom this sketch treats.

There seems to be no further mention of Robert Rise on the Stratford Records and it is suspected that he was not a resident there when these sales were recorded.

If he was not residing in Stratford at that time, he may have been the Robert Royce[7] of New London, the first notice of whom appears August 26, 1657, on the New London Records as follows:

"Robert Royce Hath given him a further addition to his houselot that he bought of John Elderkin part of it lying upon the hill recorded for a buriall place, runing opposite vpon alyne from the corner of Goodman Rodgers, his ffence, and surrounding the rocks bvtting upon Goodman Smith's ffence, and the corner of his lot towards the mill, and from the corner of Goodman Smith's Lot opposite to Goodman Comstocks house runing the breadth of his lot answerable upon alyne wth Smiths lott. bounded out by John Elderkin and John Stibben per order of the Towne"[8]

December 1, 1658, the town gave him ten acres of upland woodland by Mill Brook.[8]

April 2, 1659, Richard Smith Junior of Wethersfield sold to him his house and lot of six acres which he bought of the widow Mudge, bounded northeast by the land of Cary Latham and John Lewis, the other side on the lot originally Mr. Blinman's, the ends on the highway: also ten acres next Scull Plain, four acres in the

[6] Stratford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, old folio 62, new p. 101, and old folio 140, new p. 259.

[7] Miss Caulkins in her History of New London, 1852, p. 293, states that Rice or Rise is identical with Royce, and that Robert Rice of Stratford and Robert Royce of New London were the same person.

[8] New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 3, folio 10.

Neck, four acres of fresh meadow and twenty-four acres of upland.[9]

September 11, 1660, John Stebbins deeded to him sixteen acres of upland by the Mill Brook and his six acre lot with the remaining part of Post Hill adjoining Royce's land.[10]

January 7, 1662, he conveyed to his son Nehemiah the home-lot he bought of James Morgan with buildings, also the land he bought of William Meade adjoining said home-lot. The witnesses to this deed were his two sons, Samuel and Nathaniel.[11]

To his sons Samuel and Nathaniel he gave, on August 10, 1664, all the lands lying by Alewife Brook, "which I bought of Weaver Smith".[12]

On the same day he gave to his three sons, Samuel, Nathaniel and Isaac,

"my six acre house lot which was given me by the town, together with part of my land lying without my fence which I bought of John Stebbins, belonging to my pasture and joining to part of said six acre lot."[12]

December 28, 1664, he purchased from William Measure and his wife Alice two acres of land on the highway running by the Mill Cove, formerly given to John Tinker by the town.[13] Robert Royce and his wife Mary sold this land to Lawrence Codner, April 29, 1670, and in the deed Robert's occupation is given as that of a shoemaker.[14]

An examination of the records reveals the purchase and sale by him of other tracts of land in various parts of the town.

An entry on folio 90 of volume 3 of the New London Land Records shows that in May 1660 he was the Constable of the town. One year later he was a Deputy to the General Court.[15]

At the annual town meeting held February 25, 1661-2,

"Robert Royce was chosen for the sealing of Leather in the Towne".

He was re-elected to this office in February 1667.[16]

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[9] New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 3, folio 64.
[10] Ibid., vol. 3, folio 87.
[11] Ibid., vol. 3, p. 163.
[12] New London, Conn., Town Votes, 1647-1666, p. 119.
[13] New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 3, folio 229.
[14] Ibid., vol. 5, folio 11.
[15] Colonial Records of Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 365.
[16] New London, Conn., Town Votes, 1647-1666, p. 37, and vol. 1667-1670, unpaged.

December 9, 1667, he and Gabriel Harris were chosen

"to gather ye Towne Rate in the Towne plat for this yeere".

February 25, 1668, he and four others were appointed Townsmen.[17]

In September 1666 he was on the jury of the County Court, and by that Court was, in September 1668, appointed one of the Grand Jurors for New London.[18]

In a list, showing the valuation of the property in the town, made in 1664, Robert Royce was assessed for £163.[19]

The location of his home-lot was sightly and convenient, near the Town Square and church, and it is not surprising to find this vote:

"25 Feb. 66-7."

"Robert Rice (Royce) voated and chosen by the towne to keep ye Ordinary."[20]

Here he entertained the new minister, Reverend Simon Bradstreet, as the following vote shows:

"To Goodman Royce for ye ministers dyet, 15 lb."[21]

It will be remembered that in the conveyance of lands to Lawrence Codner on April 29, 1670, Royce's wife Mary signed the deed with him. Thus far there has not been discovered any record of their marriage and it is also unknown whether or not she was the mother of his children.

An examination of the New London Records fails to reveal any entry of his death, but that it occurred prior to September 22, 1676, and probably in that year, is shown by the following taken from the New London County Court Records:

"The Inventory of the Estate of Mr Robert Roice being presented in Court Septemb^r^ 22^d^ 1676: was proved & ordered to be recorded:

"Severall papers were presented to this Court which were signed by Robert Roice as his Last will & Testament but there being no witnesses to the same & the Executrix refuseing to accept of her executrixship, this Court haveing seriously Considered the same & finding the estate to be: 420^ll^ they distribute as follows

[17] New London, Conn., Town Votes, 1667-1670, unpaged.

[18] New London, Conn., County Court Records, unpaged.

[19] Caulkins's History of New London, Conn., 1852, p. 152.

[20] Ibid., p. 141.

[21] Ibid., p. 139.

"To the Widdow the house & Barne with all the home Lotts as also the pasture Land with two acres of salt meadow to be & remaine unto her dureing her naturall life, And two Cows two swyne the house hold stuff with Brass & pewter & bedding to be at her dispose for ever./

"And in regard the s[d] Roice hath manifested a great affection & good will to the ministry & the Comfortable Maintaineance thereof in N. Londō Norwich & Wallingsford & shewing willingnes by some of his Estate to encourage the same in compliance therewith we order that forty shill of his Estate be bestowed upon the present ministry of each of the fore mentioned three Towns to be paid in good & currant pay, and to Robert Roice sonn of Sam[ll] Roice ten pounds & that the rest of the Estate of the s[d] Roice be distributed to his five sonns & three Daughters equally as near as may be onely the sonns to have six pounds a piece more than the Daughters & the Reall Estate in the widdows hand to be in Like manner divided after her decease.—"

Unfortunately the will and inventory have not been preserved and the record of them, if any was made, was probably destroyed at the burning of New London by the traitor Arnold in 1781.

On folio 116 of volume 5 of the New London Land Records are entered two documents dated February 4, 1687-8.

The first is a power of attorney from Nehemiah Royce, Samuel Royce, and John Lothrop in right of his wife Ruth, all of Wallingford, and John Calkins of Norwich, in right of his wife Sarah, to our "well beloved brethren Jonathan Royce of Norwich and Nathaniel Royce of Wallingford", giving them authority to sell any lands in the town of New London in which they were interested.

The second document, signed by Mary Royce, widow of Robert, Nehemiah Royce, Samuel Royce, Nathaniel Royce, John Lothrop, Jonathan Royce and John Calkins, recites that a certain house and lands in New London which

"our honored father Robert Royce died seized of was by the County Court settled upon our mother for her support for life and at her death to go to the children of the deceased."

The said children with their mother's consent agreed to sell a part of the same.

November 7, 1688, Jonathan Royce of Norwich and Nathaniel Royce of Wallingford sold to John Richards of New London twenty-five acres on the north side of Post Hill, being the pasture lot of Robert Royce, deceased.[22]

[22] New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 5, folio 116.

Also September 16, 1697, Nathaniel Royce of Wallingford, blacksmith, sold to Alexander Piggon of New London, one-third of the house lot of six acres formerly called the Post Lot and adjoining the land of William Comstock, which lot was given by

"my father Robert Royce to three of his sons, vizt. Samuel Royce, Isaac Royce and me Nathaniel Royce."[23]

Nothing is known about Mary, widow of Robert Royce, after February 4, 1687-8, when she signed the agreement of that date with her children, consenting to the sale of some of the Royce property of which she had the life use.

It is quite probable that she went to spend her declining years with one of her children.

CHILDREN OF ROBERT AND ROYCE

JONATHAN[24]	b.		mar. June, 1660, Deborah Calkins[27] and lived in Norwich, Conn.
NEHEMIAH[24]	"	about 1635;[26]	" Nov. 20, 1660, Hannah Morgan[28] and lived in Wallingford, Conn.
SAMUEL[24]	"		" 1, Jan. 9, 1666, Hannah Churchill.[29] 2, June 5, 1690, Sarah Baldwin[30] and lived in Wallingford, Conn.
SARAH[24]	"		" before June, 1659, John Calkins[31] and lived in Norwich, Conn.
ISAAC[25]	"		" Dec. 15, 1669, Elizabeth Lothrop[32] and lived in Wallingford, Conn.
RUTH[24]	"		" 1, Dec. 15, 1669, John Lothrop[32] of New London and Wallingford, Conn. 2, Feb. 12, 1689, Abraham Doolittle[30] of Wallingford, Conn.
NATHANIEL[24]	"		" 1, abt. Oct. 27, 1673, Esther [33] 2, Apr. 21, 1681, Sarah Lothrop.[34] 3, Aug. 24, 1707, Hannah Farnam.[35] 4, Aug. 25, 1708, Abigail Hoyte[35] and lived in Wallingford, Conn.
DAU.	"		The order for the distribution of the father's estate shows that there were three daughters living in September, 1676. The name of this one is unknown and there is no further trace of her.

[23] New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 5, folio 221.

[24] Ibid., vol. 5, folio 116.

[25] New London, Conn., Town Votes, 1647-1666, folio 119.

[26] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 185.

[27] Norwich, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol. 1, p. 34.

[28] New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 4, folio 38.

[29] Ibid., vol. 4, folio 39. The record reads Churchwood, an error for Churchill.

[30] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, p. 52.
[31] Norwich, Conn., Births, Marriages and Deaths, original vol, 1, p. 21, and New London, Conn., Land Records, vol. 5, folio 116.
[32] New London, Conn., County Court Records, unpaged.
[33] Wallingford, Conn., Land Records, vol. 1, pp. 48, 49.
[34] Ibid., vol. 1, p. 51.
[35] Ibid., vol. 2, p. 1.

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